

# ***THE CHARGER***



## **The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable**

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**May 2024**

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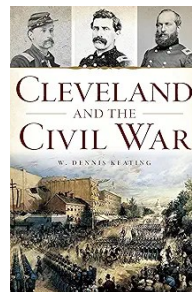
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**MEETING** – May 8, 2024

**PROGRAM** – “Cleveland and the Civil War”



**SPEAKER** – Dennis Keating, CCWRT Past President and Emeritus Professor of Urban Studies, Levin College, Cleveland State University. His book, *Cleveland and the Civil War*, was published by The

History Press in 2022

**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](mailto:ccwrtreserve@gmail.com). To ensure a dinner is reserved for you, the reservation must be made by Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Website:

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## *President's Message*

### **Fellow Roundtable Members:**

As I sit here writing my last President's Message, it is hard to believe that the year is ending. It certainly went by very quickly for me, but I must say that I enjoyed it very much. I would like to thank my fellow officers and the executive committee for their continuance support throughout the year as well as the others who contribute and have contributed over the years to make the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable a viable organization for 67 years. A special thanks to Kent Fonner and his staff of reporters for publishing the Charger each month, to Dave Carrino and Paul Burkholder for keeping the website and FaceBook up to date and I think a fantastic resource for Civil War historians around the world, to Bill Frank for having a quiz for us each month without fail, to Dan Ursu for providing us with a history brief each month, to Kirk Stewart and Rich Hronek for bringing in their collections during the year to share with the group, to William Vodrey for his twenty years of moderating our debate, to all of our members who volunteered or agreed to make presentations this year, to the Membership Committee for fantastic results, to all the "old-timers" for their sage advice, and most of all to our members for your interest in this period of history. I apologize if I left anybody out but thank you also. I look forward to many more years of enjoying the group from a less hectic seat.

I've also enjoyed digging into our archives to learn our own history and for being able to share some of this with you.

We are approaching the end of the "From Our Archives" emails for the year, but I hope to share items about the Battle of Gettysburg over the summer to help those attending the field trip in the fall get psyched up for the trip, (and even if you can't make the trip with us this fall, you can hopefully save some of this information for your next trip there).

And so, we get ready for our final meeting of the year. It is fitting that we end the year of "Ohio in the Civil War" with a presentation on the activities in our namesake city. We are fortunate to have a member, Dennis Keating, who wrote a book on the topic. I had the pleasure of hearing his presentation last year at the World at War Forum at Westlake Porter Library and enjoyed it very much. I know you will also.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks,

Bob Pence

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## *The Editor's Desk*



My wife, Patty Zinn, and I volunteered to help clean up Johnson's Island Civil War Prison site on Park Day, April 6, 2024. We

had previously visited the Confederate POW cemetery on Johnson's Island a couple years ago, but this was the first time either of us had the opportunity to be on the prison campgrounds. It was quite an experience, and I believe we both will be volunteering again next year. While we were there, we ran into Dan Zeiser, who is a member of the Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Prison and very active with our own CCWRT. One other memorable person we met that day was an elderly fellow who drove out from Pittsburgh just to participate in the cleanup work. He told us that he has an extensive collection of "hard rubber" rings and jewelry handcrafted by the POWs. No doubt some of his material will be on display when the Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island host their "Pop-Up Museum" event on the island, Saturday, June 29, 2024.



Some Park Day Volunteers Tending the Bonfire

I had read about Johnson's Island years ago when I was researching a college paper on Civil War Prisons, more specifically the trial of Captain Henry Wirz of Andersonville fame. About twenty years ago, PBS had a show about various historical artifacts in the Smithsonian. One episode centered on a home-made camera secretly built by a Johnson's Island POW and used to take portraits of some of his fellow inmates. Apparently, he worked in the camp hospital

and gained access to the needed chemicals. It was neat to see the place where this event happened.



Camp of Boy Scout Volunteers

Although parts of the island are fully developed with seasonal housing, the site of the prison camp is fairly pristine and well-kept by the volunteers. We spent our time there gathering up downed branches, raking winter debris, and hauling brush, etc., in our wheelbarrow to the bonfire. Patty spent some time with the crew that was "beautifying" the site's gateway and entrance. Although I did not make the walk, Patty had a chance to hike the trail leading to the remains of the north shore fortification. She said the site was quite impressive. Perhaps next year my arthritic knees will permit me the pleasure.

One last thing—One-quarter of the 80 volunteer workers who attended were Boy Scouts (from Troops 7172, 172, and 265). They were an enthusiastic bunch, and some of the boys made good use of the axe, side cutters, hedge trimmers, and wheelbarrow Patty and I brought with us. Watching them work gave me better confidence about the future. All-in-all, it was a fantastic time, and Patty and I are now members of the Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison. We hope to see more of you there on Park Day next year.



### ***The Man Who Gave Birth to the Gettysburg Cupola***

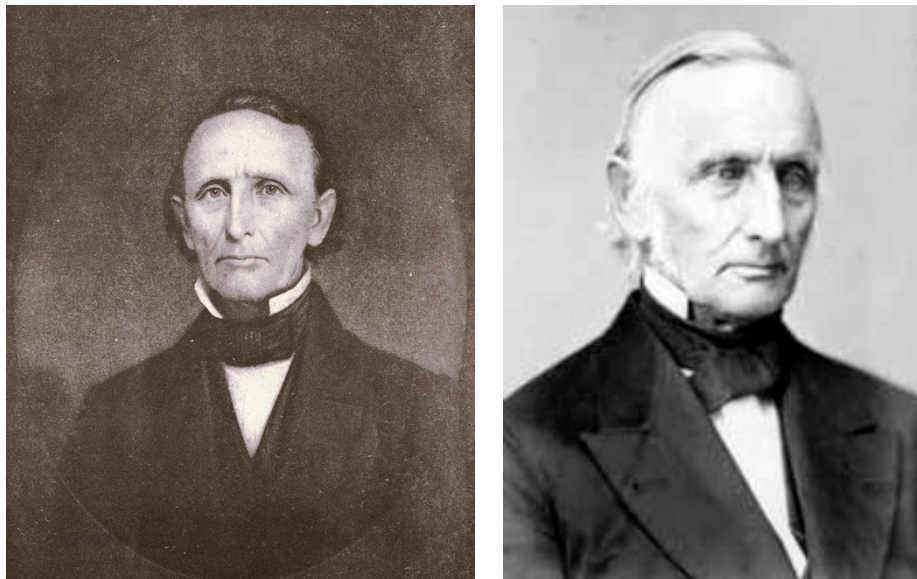
by David A. Carrino

Little Round Top. Devil's Den. Cemetery Ridge and Seminary Ridge. Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill. The Peach Orchard. The Wheatfield. The Copse of Trees. Civil War enthusiasts know these places well and comprehend the awe-inspiring magnitude of these hallowed places. These sites on the Gettysburg battlefield are indelibly etched on the roster of revered places in U.S. history. Another famous site in Gettysburg is the cupola of the Lutheran Theological Seminary. The prominent cupola looms like a somber shrine over the battlefield, seemingly brooding about the terrible carnage and profuse loss of life that happened during those three awful days. With its elevated location, the cupola would have been an excellent vantage point to observe the horror that took place around it. Because of this, it is not hard to



imagine that when those who grasp the historic solemnness of those three days look up at the cupola in its lofty perch, they wish that it could recount to the onlookers the numerous frightful events that it witnessed.

The cupola has become such an iconic landmark of the Battle of Gettysburg that one of the planned activities for the 2024 Roundtable field trip to Gettysburg is to go up into the cupola. This will give the participants on the field trip a unique opportunity to experience a special closeness to that battle by standing inside something that was present there while the two armies clashed. But in contrast to implements of war, the cupola and the Lutheran Theological Seminary were not intended to ever be in a battle. The seminary building and its cupola were constructed for an entirely different purpose, and the man who was chiefly responsible for bringing the seminary into existence in Gettysburg had no idea that just over three decades after the cupola was built, it would become a towering witness to the bloodiest battle of the Civil War.



Samuel Schmucker as a Younger Man and Later Photographed as an Older Man

The person who deserves the majority of the credit for the cupola in Gettysburg is Samuel Simon Schmucker. Samuel Schmucker was born in Hagerstown, Maryland on February 28, 1799. His parents, Johann and Catherine, were German immigrants, and Johann was a pastor in the Lutheran Church. When Samuel was only 15 years old, he entered the University of Pennsylvania and graduated two years later, after which, at the young age of 17, he taught at a school for a short time. Schmucker then went on a missionary journey to Ohio and Kentucky in what was at that time the western frontier. Following his return, Schmucker, pursuing the same career as his father, entered the Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained a Lutheran minister in 1820. From 1820 to 1825, Schmucker served as a pastor in New Market, Virginia in the Shenandoah Valley, and this experience came to influence his views on slavery.

Schmucker, who has been described as "endowed with rare natural ability," quickly became very influential in the Lutheran Church in the U.S. He was an important figure in the creation of the General Synod in 1820, which was one of the first organizations in the American Lutheran Church that brought

together different regional congregations. Subsequently, Schmucker wrote the constitution and the hymnal for the General Synod. Upon its formation, the General Synod proposed establishing a seminary in order to provide a source of ministers. Over the next few years, progress on creating a seminary moved slowly, so much so that Schmucker established a small private seminary in his New Market parish. In 1824 Schmucker gave a sermon in Middletown, Maryland in which he described his private seminary and urged the establishment of a larger centralized seminary. This sermon provided a needed impetus to the formation of a general seminary. Even as far back as his time as a seminary student in Princeton, Schmucker was a strong advocate for a centralized theological seminary, which Schmucker now insisted would save the U.S. Lutheran Church from "her former lifeless and distracted condition."

In 1825 a committee was formed to develop a plan for a theological seminary. Schmucker was one of the people who was appointed to this committee, but even before the committee's first meeting, Schmucker had already written a plan for establishing and operating a seminary. This plan was adopted by the General Synod, which then elected a board of directors for the seminary and also elected the seminary's first professor. Not surprisingly, Schmucker was elected the first professor, and he was given the responsibility of writing a constitution for the seminary.

When the board of directors held its first meeting on March 2, 1826, it elected Schmucker its president. One of the important decisions that the board faced at this meeting was the location of the seminary. Five locations were under consideration: Hagerstown and Frederick in Maryland as well as Carlisle, Chambersburg, and Gettysburg in Pennsylvania. However, only Hagerstown, Carlisle, and Gettysburg had submitted proposals for the seminary. Hagerstown's proposal was for \$6,635, Carlisle's proposal was for \$2,000 plus a 100-square-foot plot of land, a house for the professor, and \$3,000 for the construction of a building for the seminary, and Gettysburg's proposal was for \$7,000 plus the use of a building until the seminary's own building was built.

After lengthy discussion, a vote was taken. On the first ballot by the board of directors, four votes were cast for Gettysburg, three for Hagerstown, and two for Carlisle. Because none of the locations received a majority, a second vote was conducted. This time Gettysburg received six votes and Hagerstown three, which made Gettysburg the location for the seminary. While the choice was officially made by vote, another factor played a significant role in this decision, as noted in a book about the seminary's history that was published in 1926 by the U.S. Lutheran Church. There is a description in this book of the process by which the seminary was founded, and this description indicates that, with regard to choosing the location for the seminary, "everywhere there was a disposition to consult the preference of the Professor-elect." In other words, Schmucker likely had a strong influence on the choice of Gettysburg for the seminary.

Ironically, one factor for Gettysburg being selected for the seminary was also a reason why the battle was fought there. The board of directors considered Gettysburg quite accessible due in large part to the number of roads that led into it. Similarly, the number of roads leading into Gettysburg from several different directions caused both the scattered elements of the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac to come together there, and then the momentous battle ensued.

When operations began at the seminary in September 1826, the seminary was housed in an academic building that was provided in the proposal submitted from Gettysburg. Construction of a new building for the seminary began in 1831 and was completed in time for fall classes in 1832. That new building with its prominent cupola is the building that is now commonly referred to as the Lutheran Theological Seminary, although the building was officially renamed Schmucker Hall in 1976 in honor of the person who is primarily responsible not only for the establishment of the seminary, but also for the seminary

being located in Gettysburg. Regarding the move into the new building, the aforementioned book about the history of the seminary colorfully states, "In September 1832, the young school of the prophets abandoned its cradle and moved out into a new stage of its existence." The new building served as the main building for the seminary from 1832 until 1895 and thereafter was used as a student dormitory until 1951.

Eventually more faculty members were added, and Samuel Schmucker served as chairman of the faculty (essentially president of the seminary). During this time, Schmucker was vocal on current matters in society. For example, he was a critic of the war with Mexico, which he believed ran counter to the Constitution. He was also vehemently opposed to slavery, an opinion that was shaped by the time that he lived in the Shenandoah Valley and witnessed slavery firsthand. In his writings and lectures, Schmucker strongly and repeatedly attacked slavery, which he framed as a violation of God's precepts. In an 1846 discourse that was subsequently published in print, Schmucker stated, "As a patriot and a Christian, I feel bound to bear my testimony against the unjust laws relating to our despised and often oppressed colored population...Some of the laws on this subject are direct violations of the laws of God...Until we have used our utmost efforts to purify our own statute book, and to have slavery abolished...we must stand guilty at the bar of heaven of participation in this sin." Schmucker made clear in this discourse that he viewed slavery as a sinful violation of God's laws.

Schmucker expressed similar sentiments in his 1840 "Of Slavery: Propositions on the Subject of Slavery," in which he also attacked some of the rationalizations for slavery. Among the assertions that he made therein, Schmucker wrote, "Slavery as it is legally authorized in the United States...is the very worst form of such an evil, because by converting the moral agent of God, into a mere chattel, the person into a mere thing, the immortal being into a mere article of property, it in theory strips him of all his personal rights." For any slaveholders who insisted that they treated their slaves kindly, Schmucker wrote, "Experience proves that whilst there are thousands of humane and Christian masters, who treat their slaves with kindness and work them moderately, yet even in their hands the system itself unavoidably leads to the intellectual and moral degradation of the slave." Schmucker also had strong criticism for those who believed that justification for slavery can be found in the Bible, and he expressed this by writing, "That a system compounded of elements so immoral and so clearly opposed to the character of God, finds any sanction in his word can be asserted only from want of careful and adequate examination, or from ignorance or prejudice, or insincerity." For the opponents of slavery who did not actively work toward bringing it to an end, Schmucker wrote, "Every instance or institution which violates the inalienable rights and obligations of individuals is in its own nature an evil. Further, all who materially and knowingly establish it, or who...fail sincerely to desire and faithfully to labor for its extinction, are guilty of sin."

Importantly, Schmucker did more than just write about inequalities. Through his efforts, the first African American student was admitted to the Gettysburg seminary in 1837. Schmucker also helped to establish schools for women. Thus, he put his words and his opinions into action. Due to his writings, Schmucker's staunch anti-slavery views became known throughout the country, including in the South, and as a result his house was ransacked during the time that the Army of Northern Virginia was in Gettysburg.

Schmucker led the Lutheran Theological Seminary for nearly 40 years, from its founding in 1826 until 1864, the year after the seminary's main building became an iconic landmark of the most famous battle of the Civil War. Prior to his time at the seminary, Schmucker married Eleonora Geiger in 1821, but she died in childbirth in 1823 at the age of 24. Two years later Schmucker married Mary Catherine Steenbergen, and they had 11 children, three of whom died as infants. Mary died in 1848 at age 40, and Schmucker died in 1873 at age 74. Samuel and Mary Schmucker are interred in Evergreen Cemetery in



Gettysburg.

In addition to his indispensable role in the establishment of the seminary in Gettysburg, Schmucker made other significant contributions. In 1832, six years after the seminary began operations, Schmucker founded Gettysburg College (originally known as Pennsylvania College). He also, through his writings and sermons, profoundly influenced doctrinal thinking and religious practices in the American Lutheran Church. Moreover, Schmucker's insightful intellect, focused efforts, and religious zeal reinvigorated the Lutheran Church in America and deeply impacted the parameters of Lutheran theology in the U.S. Samuel Schmucker has been called "easily the outstanding Lutheran of our country in his generation," and the seminary in Gettysburg with its iconic cupola is a monument to his innate talents, his devotion to his religion, and his resolute tenacity.



Modern view of the Luthern Theological Seminary with Its Cupola

The Gettysburg cupola did not spring forth by some magical spontaneous generation, but through the dedicated and intense work of Samuel Schmucker. It is unfortunate that the most well-known tangible object that Samuel Schmucker left on this Earth is associated not with him, but with a Union cavalry commander. When we stand in the cupola on the 2024 field trip, the talk will most likely be about how John Buford stood in that same cupola in 1863 and used it as a lookout to gather information about enemy movements. But as we gaze at the same landscape that John Buford scanned, we should also keep something else in mind. If not for Samuel Schmucker, John Buford would not have had the cupola to stand in, and neither would we.



## Sources

A number of sources were used for this article. The most useful sources are as follows.

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*The Christian Pulpit, The Rightful Guardian of Morals, in Political No Less Than in Private Life: A Discourse Delivered at Gettysburg, Nov. 26, the Day Appointed by the Governor for Public Humiliation, Thanksgiving, and Prayer* by S.S. Schmucker, D.D. (1846)

"Of Slavery: Propositions on the Subject of Slavery" by Samuel Simon Schmucker

(<https://civilwarcauses.org/schmucke.htm>.)

Building History, Seminary Ridge Museum & Education Center

(<https://www.seminaryridgemuseum.org/introduction>)



Camp Cleveland located near present day Tremont



Some Men of Co. K, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters  
Captain Edwin V. Address is sitting with his back against the tree.

### ***A Valorous but Fruitless Service: Native Americans of Co. K, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters***

By Al Fonner

When civil war broke out in the United States, a bloody struggle began that stretched on for four years. The causes, stated and unstated, were many: preeminence of states' rights, preservation of the Union, abolition of slavery, even freedom itself. Native Americans warily viewed hostilities amongst the whites with mixed responses. Some, like the Chiricahua Apache, preferred to remain neutral. Others, such as the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw who had been forced from their ancestral lands by the U.S. Federal Government to live on reservations in the Oklahoma Territory, would throw their lot in with the Confederacy. Northern tribes, such as the Ottawa, sided with the Union in hopes that their loyalty would help preserve their shrinking land and way of life. Chippewa Chief Nock-ke-chick-faw-me, in Detroit, motivated the young men of his tribe to join the colors by warning, "If the South conquers you will be slave dogs.... There will be no protection for us; we shall be driven from our homes, our lands, and the graves of our friends." (Berg, 2016)

In 1861, the Michigan legislature rejected the idea put forth by Methodist minister George Copway, himself a Chippewa, of fielding a regiment of Great Lakes Native Americans who he claimed were “inured to hardships, fleet as deer, shrewd and cautious.” (American Battlefield Trust, 2023) After two years, however, the Union army was in dire need of new recruits. With the imposition of a federal draft that included quotas to be filled by each state, Michigan turned its attention to the Native Americans living within the state to support the Union.

Native American recruiting efforts in Michigan began in earnest, spearheaded by 9<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry veteran Col. Charles V. DeLand. Of particular interest to him were “stealthy men with acute marksmanship to join a regiment of sharpshooters.” (American Battlefield Trust, 2023) Potential recruits were enticed with the same benefits as white soldiers, including a \$50 state bounty, \$25 federal bounty, and \$13 per month pay. Second Lt. Garrett Graveraet led an impressive recruiting drive amongst the Native Americans, filling out the ranks of what would be Co. K, 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters. Graveraet even convinced his father, 55-year-old Henry Graveraet, to enlist. The elder Graveraet would reduce his age to 45 and become a sergeant in Co. K, the only non-Native American amongst its enlisted ranks.

Garrett Graveraet was born in 1840 to a Franco-Ottawa fur trader and his Ojibwe wife. He would live in two worlds, helping his father fish, hunt, and farm while learning of the Ojibwe life through association with his Ojibwe friends and his mother. Garrett Graveraet was an educated man who taught briefly in a Native American school. He spoke English, French, and Ojibwe. A renaissance man of sorts, Graveraet displayed a passion for the arts; his interests included the violin, portraiture and landscape painting, and literature. He was said to be “a natural leader and an expert in cultural mediation.” (American Battlefield Trust, n.d.) Garrett enlisted in 1863, becoming one of the few Native American officers in service with the Union.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters mustered in at Detroit on July 7, 1863. The men of Co. K underwent intense training while Col. DeLand and the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan were sent to hunt down Confederate raider John Hunt Morgan in Indiana. Second Lt. Graveraet, along with Capt. Edwin V. Address and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William Driggs, drilled the Co. K recruits into shape. The training administered by the officers was so effective that, upon DeLand’s return, mustering officer Lt. Col. John R. Smith remarked that Co. K was “the stuff, no doubt of which good sharpshooters can easily be made.” (American Battlefield Trust, 2023)

Despite such praise, in August 1863, Co. K and the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan were ordered to Camp Douglas outside Chicago to guard Confederate prisoners. Mundane camp life soon led the men of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan to suffer boredom, disease, and desertion. Charles Bibbin of Co. F remembered after the war that the men of Co. K “never associate with the other soldiers, always keeping to themselves from the time they joined the regiment until they mustered out.” (Gordon Berg, 2016) Orders eventually came on March 8, 1864, for the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan to join Maj. Gen. Burnside’s IX Corps of the Army of the Potomac in Annapolis, MD. Company K and the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan arrived just in time for Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s overland campaign. The men of Co. K would soon find themselves thrust into the fighting at the Battle of the Wilderness on May 6, 1864, where they encountered the Confederates for the first time at Saunder’s Field.

At Saunder’s Field, Co. K resolutely engaged the enemy, employing their honed skills for sharpshooting and skirmishing. The men camouflaged their uniforms with brush and mud, a

practice that the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan would soon adopt. During the fighting, the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters, along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry Regiments, supported the 14<sup>th</sup> New York Battery on a small rise of ground. The Michiganders tenaciously held their ground; but occasionally, the Confederates would fight their way to the battery. Any attempt to turn the guns met with certain death as the sharpshooters laid down a deadly hail of well-aimed bullets. Second Lt. Graveraet commanded one small band of Co. K sharpshooters. At dusk, when the ammunition ran out, Co. K rushed forward with the others at a shout from twice wounded but still determined Lt. Col. DeLand, "Give them steel boys!" (Sarah Bierle, 2019) The bloody fighting ended with the coming of darkness. Sgt. Charles Allen would be the first of Co. K's combat-related fatalities when he passed away from his wounds a week later in Fredericksburg.

On May 12, 1864, during the battle of Spotsylvania, Co. K was attacked by Brig. Gen. James H. Lane's North Carolinians. One of the North Carolinians remembered, "As we drove them back one Indian took refuge behind a tree. We saw him and supposed he would surrender. As we moved on he shot our color bearer. T.J. Watkins picked up a satchel with beautiful figured work thereon, made with various colored beads." (Sarah Bierle, 2019) While inspecting Brompton hospital on May 20, 1864, William H. Reed of the U.S. Sanitary Commission recorded, "In a group of four Indian sharpshooters, each with the loss of a limb, of an arm at the shoulder, of a leg at the knee, or with an amputation of the thigh, never was patience more finely illustrated. They neither spoke nor moaned, but suffered and died, making a mute appeal to our sympathy, and expressing both in look and manner their gratitude for our care." (Sarah Bierle, 2019) Ten more Co. K men died as a from the fighting at Spotsylvania, including 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Graveraet's father, Sgt. Henry Graveraet.

On June 17, 1864, after the Army's move south of the James River, Co. K took part in Brig. Gen. Orlando Wilcox's poorly executed attack on a Confederate salient near Petersburg, VA. While the sharpshooters gained the Confederate breastworks, they found themselves isolated. The Co. K soldiers engaged in hand-to-hand combat while covering the retreat of their comrades, but they were soon overwhelmed by Brig. Gen. Matthew Ransom's North Carolina regiments. Over 80 soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan were captured, including 14 from Co. K. Two casualties were suffered, including 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Garrett Graveraet, who would succumb to his wounds in Washington D.C. on July 10. Worse, the 80 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan prisoners were transferred to Andersonville Prison: thirty-seven of these 80, including eight from Co. K, perished while imprisoned there.

Following the action of July 17<sup>th</sup>, Co. K settled into the routine of siege warfare. They stood picket duty, dug trenches, and sniped at Confederates. In one case, concerning a well-placed Confederate sharpshooter causing havoc within his unit, Lt. Freeman S. Bowley of the 30<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Troops recalled: "Nearly a mile away stood a high chimney. All day the Indians watched that chimney and never fired a shot. The sun had gone down and the twilight was deepening, when one of the Indians fired. A man was seen to fall from the chimney...he had incautiously exposed a portion of his body, and the Indian sharpshooter had instantly dropped him." (Gordon Berg, 2016)

The next great challenge for Co. K and the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters would come on July 30, 1864, during an ill-fated action known as the Battle of the Crater. Gen. Burnside had come up with a plan to tunnel over 500 feet under the Confederate trenches and detonate a mine consisting of 8000 pounds of gun powder. Four brigades of the IX corps led by Brig. Gen.



Edward Ferrero's "Colored Division" were to swarm into the breach, push aside any remaining defenders, and take the Confederate trenches. Ferrero's division was to be followed by Brig. Gen. Wilcox's 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, which included the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters. The assault was to move swiftly and occupy Cemetery Hill, the high ground about 500 yards beyond, and then proceed into Petersburg.

As often happens with military plans, things did not go as intended. The mine was detonated 90 minutes late. Bowley recalled, "From the earth there burst a red glare of flame, followed by the black smoke; with it came a terrible rumbling, that lengthened into a muffled roar. High into the air rose the cloud of smoke and dust, and with it great blocks of clay and many dark objects that might have been men or cannon. Back to earth the mess fell again, with another shock almost equal to the first." (Gordon Berg, 2016)

When Co. K entered the crater, they were greeted with a chaotic scene. A leaderless, confused mass of blue milled about within the pit that had formed following the blast. Company K and the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan took up positions on the left, gaining a foothold on the Confederate trenches. They were soon joined by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Michigan. The Confederates, though, soon regrouped and began to pour a withering hail of lead down upon the Union troops in the pit. Despite the Confederates' murderous fire, the Native Americans of Co. K remained steadfast. Lt. William H. Randall of Co. I recalled, "the Indians showed great coolness. They would fire at a Johnny and then drop down. Would then peek over the works and try to see the effect of their shot." (Gordon Berg, 2016) Lt. Bowley remembered, "Some of them were mortally wounded, and clustering together, covered their heads with their blouses, chanted a death song, and died—four of them in a group." (Gordon Berg, 2016)



Four Men of Co. K Singing Their Death Songs

Few accounts of the retreat out of the Crater exist. Historian Raymond Herek had this to say based on his research: “Some of the Sharpshooters, among them Pvts. Sidney Haight, Antoine Scott, and Charles Thatcher covered the retreat as best they could before they pulled out. Scott (Co. K) was one of the last to leave the fort.... Thatcher, Haight, Scott and [Charles H.] DePuy all were cited for the Medal of Honor for their exploits that day.” Thatcher, Haight, and DePuy, all white, received their medals in 1896. Scott, a Pentwater Chippewa, passed away 1878, likely unaware that his exceptional bravery had been recognized. Co. K lost 10 men to the Crater: three killed, one wounded, and six captured.

The Crater was the last major action for Co. K. They went on to participate in the fighting at Ream’s Station, Peebles Farm, Hatcher’s Run, and the final assault at Petersburg in April 1865. The men would march in the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. on May 23, 1865. They were mustered out of the Army on July 28, 1865. Approximately 1300 men had served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Sharpshooters; of these, only 23 officers and 386 enlisted men would return home after the war. Those absent from the return included, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Garrett Graveraet and his father, Sgt. Henry Graveraet. Having lost both her husband and her only son to the white man’s war, Sophie Graveraet would be compensated with \$15 per month until she died.

Over 20,000 Native Americans had fought in the Civil War, splitting their allegiances between North and South much like their white counterparts. Unlike their white counterparts, however, the Native Americans’ sacrifices for the cause would be hardly acknowledged. The “civilized tribes” in Oklahoma would be forced to sell much of their land to pay reparations as punishment for siding with the Confederacy. Even the tribes who sided with the Union, such as those of Co. K, would continue to face discrimination as whites continued to encroach upon their way of life. As Roy Morris stated, the Ottawa, “... chose to remain loyal to the Union, in the forlorn hope that its willingness to fight for the white men’s country would help preserve its increasingly imperiled way of life. Like many of the tribe’s dealings with the federal government, it turned out to be a costly and ultimately losing proposition.”

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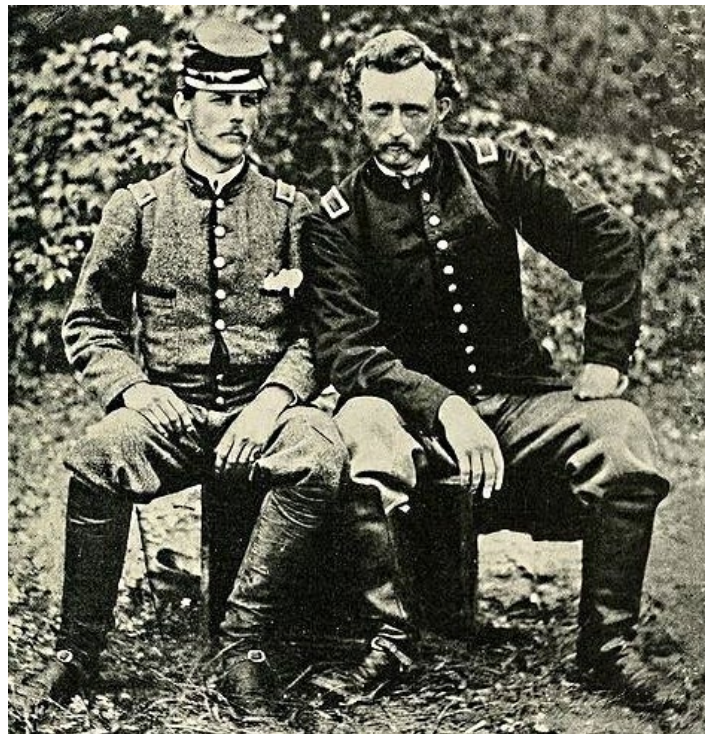
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## ***CUSTER'S FIRST STAND***

By John Fazio

[Editor's Note: A little Civil War humor that I'm sure John would have enjoyed sharing with us all.]

A friend of mine, a history buff like me, recently asked an interesting question. If Custer's Last Stand was on the Little Bighorn in southeast Montana, he said, where was his First Stand? I told him he was in luck; that I happened to have the answer to that question because I had discovered it about a year earlier when I



was tromping about an area east of Gettysburg. So I told him. He said he thought it was an interesting story and suggested that I spread it about. So that's what I'm doing.

Custer's First Stand was located about a mile east of Gettysburg, when the battle was raging there, and he used it to sell lemonade. Business was slow until JEB Stuart rode up with his cavalry on July 3 and told Custer that he and his men were dying of thirst in the July heat and could he help. Custer said "No problem. There's plenty for everyone." So Custer's men and Stuart's men dismounted and drank lemonade together, hobnobbing about this and that. It wasn't long before George and JEB were chatting up a storm. It went like this:

George: You look tired, JEB. Hard ridin, eh?

JEB: Nah. Twern't the ridin. I stopped off to see one of my ladies in Maryland on my way up from Virginnie. I was OK before that, but plumb tuckered out when I left, if you get my drift. Ha Ha.

George: Course I get it JEB. I've been known to handle a filly or two in my time.

JEB: Damn right! And why not? Beats this fightin and killen all to hell.

George: Damn straight, JEB

JEB: You know, George. You Yankees aren't such a bad lot after all. You may not know anythin about fried chicken, grits or boiled peanuts, but you sure can make a helluva lemonade.

George: That's mighty kind of you, JEB

JEB: Damn right! Wher'd ya get the ice?

George: Whole barnfull of the stuff over yonder, packed in sawdust.

JEB: No kidden. Last all summer, eh?

George: All summer, man.

JEB: How'd ya break it up?

George: Well, we started with our bayonets, but that was too slow, so we just had the horses stomp all over the stuff.

JEB: Don't say. I wondered what those little brown flecks were in there.

George: Well, when ya gotta go ya gotta go. Horses too. Know what I mean?



JEB: Course. Course.

George: You don't mind do ya?

JEB: Mind! Hey. With this heat, you could tell me there's arsenic in there, and I'd drink it. Know what I mean...what's that rumblin'?

George: Big battle goin on a few miles west.


JEB: Why, the silly bastards. Killin each other like that. Can you imagine the stupidity? Chees!

George: Yeah.

At this point, JEB rose, wiped his mouth dry with his dusty sleeve, and said to his men: "All right, boys. Let's andiamo." (Showing off the Italian he'd recently learned from one of his ladies.) "Gotta do somethin for the old man," he continued, "He's mad at me. Brought him 200 wagons full of stuff and he's mad. Can you imagine? Wouldn't even accept my sword." Then he turned to Custer, doffed his plumed hat, bowed graciously, and said: "Thank you, Suh, for your hospitality."

Custer responded: "Uh...JEB...aren't you, a...forgettin somethin?" "Whatzat," answered JEB, puzzled. "The bill," responded George. "Oh that--," said JEB, "--no problem. Whadda I ohya?" George said "Well, lessee: 3,000 times 10¢ / glass; that'll be \$300.00." JEB said "Nothin to it. Here!" and handed George \$300 in Confederate money. George was shocked. "Why, you don't expect me to accept worthless currency from a bogus Confederacy for my lemonade, do you?" JEB got red as the plume in his hat, then said "Worthless currency! Bogus Confederacy! Why you insolent pup, you mangy cur, you long-haired sack of fodder, I'll show you how we handle your kind, Suh!" At which point, he put on his plumed hat, jumped on his horse and whipped out his sword. As if on cue, all the men, on both sides, did the same thing and, as you might expect, they proceeded to slice each other up pretty badly. History records the battle (the Confederates retreated when Union Captain William E. Miller\* showed up (grandfather of the William Miller who was Goldwater's running mate in 1964), but doesn't record its cause, which, incidentally, demonstrates the validity of Charles and Mary Beard's thesis that economics was the cause of the war. The only reason I know the whole story is that when I was walking through the field that day, I spied a bottle sticking partly out of the ground. I dug it out, opened it up and found a description of the whole incident, recorded by one of the survivors. Not only that, but a genie jumped out and said I could have anything I wished for. But that's another story.


\* William E. Miller had an interesting life. After the war, he joined the Polish National Army, but was drummed out after a brief stay because his name was deemed to be too ethnic and he refused to change it to Casimir Kowalski.



Meetings are held in the Conference Center at the Holiday Inn Independence at 6001 Rockside Road. Reservations are made by emailing [cwrtreserve@gmail.com](mailto:cwrtreserve@gmail.com). Dinner is optional.

**Membership in the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable is open to all who have a deep interest in learning about that period of our country's history and enjoy engaging in discussion about that tumultuous period.**

**Meeting Time:** Meetings begin with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:15 p.m. Meetings usually end around 9:00 p.m.



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**Bringing the Civil War Era of U.S. History to Cleveland since 1956**





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You don't have to dress up to attend a meeting, but it might help get you in a picture with General Grant (living historian Dr. Curt Fields) when he visits.

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The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable is a nonprofit, all-volunteer historical society and social group founded in 1956 and dedicated to the study and discussion of the American Civil War Era. The common bond shared by the Roundtable's members is a deep interest in the Civil War Era, a desire to learn more about it, and an enjoyment of participating in discussions about the war, its causes, and aftermath. Our interest is not just in the battles, but also the overall impact of the era on the people who lived at that time and on our country and its history.

**What Do We Offer?**

- Noted Historians – A sample of some who have given presentations to the CWRT
- A. Wilson Greene – Petersburg
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- Women in the Civil War
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- Buffington Island
- Civil War sites & organizations
- Johnson's Island
- National History Day
- Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument
- Woodlawn Cemetery

Trifold developed by Past President Steve Pettyjohn. Pick some up at the May meeting.



### ***Artillery Hell: The Useless Sacrifice of the Troup (Georgia) Artillery at Antietam***

© Brian D. Kowell, November 2023

Imagine what must have gone through artillery Captain Henry H. Carlton's mind when he peered from the edge of the West Woods near Dunker Church toward the Federal lines on the morning of September 17, 1862. Leaving his battery behind, he rode in the company of Major General J.E.B. Stuart of the cavalry to this spot. Looking out, the dead and wounded soldiers from both sides lay strewn across the fields. Visible to their right were the blue-clad infantry of Brigadier General George Greene's division and approximately 500 yards in front were "some two or three batteries of artillery on the ridge just opposite us."<sup>i</sup>

Carlton did not know that Brigadier General Joseph Kershaw's men had earlier driven Greene's men from the West Woods and chased the Yankees into the open field beyond. Kershaw's attack was supported by a battery, Captain John P.W. Read's Pulaski (Georgia) Artillery that had unlimbered not far from where Carlton now stood. A torrent of shell, shrapnel, and solid shot from the Union batteries opposite (Woodruff's, Cothran's, Knapp's, and a section of Tompkin's) had blasted Kershaw's men, forcing them to scramble back to the safety of the West Woods. One South Carolinian believed it was "one of the heaviest and most prolonged firing of shot and

shell I can recall.”<sup>iii</sup> Read’s battery, in 20 minutes, had one gun disabled and 20 horses and 14 men killed or wounded. The battery “was so badly crippled that Read was forced to abandon his damaged piece and haul the three other guns off by hand.”<sup>iii</sup>

Carlton also did not know that it was Stuart’s idea to position him on this ground. Earlier, Stuart, thinking that he needed a battery to replace Read’s so the infantry could try another attack, rode to the rear. Why the army’s cavalry commander was directing things is a mystery. He found Generals Jackson and McLaws together behind the lines idly talking. Stuart explained his need for a battery. McLaws, the division commander to which Kershaw, Read, and Carlton were attached, said no. Jackson, without seeing the ground and outranking McLaws, told him to supply Stuart with a battery. Carlton’s battery, standing nearby in reserve, was chosen.<sup>iv</sup>

So there Carlton stood, not liking what he saw, as three guns of his battery approached through the woods. Carlton was an intelligent and experienced officer. The 27-year-old Georgian had graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and practiced medicine before the war. He had fought with his battery at Cheat Mountain, during the Peninsula Campaign, and at South Mountain, where he had lost one gun. He knew now his men were approaching a hornet’s nest.<sup>v</sup>

Yankee riflemen from Greene’s division had spotted them and began sniping at the Confederate officers. Both Carlton’s and Stuart’s horses were hit and Stuart’s courier was killed by their fire. This did not deter Stuart. He instructed Carlton to place his battery at the edge of the woods “and not to let the loss of men and horses cause me [Carlton] to retreat from the position but hold it” until Stuart could get infantry up. With that Stuart rode off.<sup>vi</sup>

Bounding through the woods ahead of the guns was the battery’s mascot, a small dog named “Charlie.” As the guns arrived, Carlton shouted orders to unlimber. Before the artillerymen could swing the guns around, the Federal batteries (18 guns) zeroed in on them. Every horse pulling the limbers plus some that were pulling the caissons were killed. A total of 18 horses died in a matter in a matter of minutes.

Carlton’s crews struggled on, heroically hauling their three guns into position by hand. They rapidly opened fire, and in about 10 minutes they had fired off 109 rounds. The smoke was so thick that to assess the effect of this fire, Carlton stood exposed on the steps of Dunker Church. The Troup Artillery was simply outgunned – 18 guns to 3 guns. Despite their rapid rate of fire, one by one Carlton’s pieces were knocked out of action. He lost 30% of his men with 1 killed and 8 wounded.<sup>vii</sup>

When McLaws became aware of the destruction being wreaked on Carlton’s Battery, he ordered the captain to abandon his guns and pull what was left of his command back under cover. The battery accomplished nothing, except providing target practice for the Federal artillery. Carlton bitterly recalled years later that he had obeyed Stuart’s orders, “but at the sacrifice of my entire battery.”<sup>viii</sup> It was a useless sacrifice of the Troup artillery at Antietam.



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<sup>i</sup> Carman, Ezra A., *The Maryland Campaign of September 1862, Vol. II: Antietam*, ed. Thomas G. Clemens, California, Savas Beatie 2012. Fn. p. 161, H.H. Carlton to Ezra Carmen, May 20, 1893. Hartwig, D. Scott, *I Dread the Thought of the Place: The Battle of Antietam and the End of the Maryland Campaign*, Baltimore, John Hopkins University Press, 2023. P. 280.

<sup>ii</sup> Carman, *Antietam*, fn. p. 204 & fn. p. 213. Lieutenant Y. J. Pope, 3<sup>rd</sup> S.C. to Ezra Carmen, March 20, 1895. Hartwig, *I Dread the Thought*, p. 279.

<sup>iii</sup> Hartwig, *I Dread the Thought*, p. 280. Read's Battery consisted of 1 10-pound Parrott, 1 3-inch rifle, 1 6-pound smooth-bore gun, and 1 12-pound howitzer. He had 78 men total, p. 811 & Appendix C.

<sup>iv</sup> Ibid. Carman, *Antietam*, fn. p. 235, McLaws letter to Heth, December 13, 1894.

<sup>v</sup> [www.findagrave.com/memorial/7115166/henry-hull-carlton](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7115166/henry-hull-carlton). <https://civilwarintheeast.com/confederate-regiments/georgia/troup-georgia-battery/>. Johnson, Curt & Richard C. Andrews, Jr., *Artillery Hell: The Employment of Artillery at Antietam*, College Station, Texas A&M University Press, 1995. P. 86. Carlton's Battery consisted of 27 men and five guns – 2 10-pound Parrotts, 1 12-pound howitzer, and 2 6-pound smooth-bore guns. However, one gun had been disabled at Crampton's Gap. Why Carlton only brought three of the four remaining guns is unknown. Johnson & Andrews postulate that Carlton's 2 6-pound smooth-bores might have been left behind at Leesburg. If so, where Carlton got an extra cannon is unknown.

<sup>vi</sup> Carman, *Antietam*, fn. p. 186, H.H. Carlton to Ezra Carmen, May 20, 1893, December 2, 1899.

<sup>vii</sup> Johnson, Curt & Richard C. Andrews, Jr., *Artillery Hell: The Employment of Artillery at Antietam*, College Station, Texas A&M University Press, 1995. P. 86. Wise, Jennings Cropper, *The Long Arm of Lee, Volume I: Bull Run to Fredericksburg*, London & Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1988. Bison Books edition, 1991. P. 321.

<sup>viii</sup> Carlton to Carmen, May 20, 1893 and December 2, 1899. Hartwig, *I Dread the Thought*, p. 281

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### **TOUR OF BUFFINGTON ISLAND BATTLEFIELD, SAT. JULY 20, 2024**

Last year marked the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Buffington Island, the largest armed clash in the Buckeye State during the Civil War. Our Nov. 4 tour had to be postponed due to numerous scheduling conflicts, but the Cleveland CWRT's Committee on Local Field Trips has now arranged for a guided tour of the battlefield on Sat. July 20 from 2pm to 4:30pm.

The tour will take us on important private lands of the battlefield that are usually inaccessible. Although the tour is free, donations are welcomed by the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation to support its mission; the CWRT Board has approved a donation, too.

Space on the tour is limited, so first come, first served for reservations.

Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park is almost 3 1/2 hours' drive from the East Side of Cleveland. Please plan your trip accordingly.

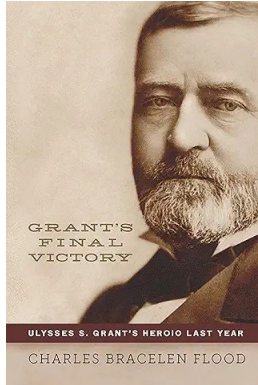
For more on the battle:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Buffington\\_Island](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Buffington_Island)

<https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/browse-historical-sites/buffington-island-battlefield-memorial-park/>

If interested, please reply directly to William Vodrey at [wfbvodrey@aol.com](mailto:wfbvodrey@aol.com), no later than noon on Mon. July 15. Thanks!

## BOOK REVIEW



Charles Bracelen Flood. *Grant's Final Victory: Ulysses S. Grant's Heroic Last Year* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: DaCapo Press, 2011). ISBN #978-0-306-82028-1

After the Civil War ended in 1865 many of the veterans faded into history, they got married, raised families, went into business, led rather mundane lives, and watched the years go by. Not so with others, several went on to careers in the military and business, they became clergymen, and politicians among a myriad of other careers. Ulysses Grant was one of the latter. In his book *Grant's Final Victory*, Charles Bracelen Flood traces the last year of Grant's life, his bankruptcy, and the point at which he found out he had throat cancer. Mr. Flood gives a very thorough account of the tragedies that plagued Grant during his final year from the point he found out he was penniless right up until the time his funeral procession left the gravesite. It struck me that several people stood out in the yearlong tragedy and they readily came to his assistance dealing with the difficult situation. Among them was Cornelius Vanderbilt, Samuel Clemons, Senator Jerome Chaffee, and many others. The final year of life was one of extreme difficulty for Grant, but it was made easier by the many friends and old soldiers both Union and Confederate who came to his assistance.

It seems that Grant's son thirty-year-old Ulysses S. Grant Jr. or Buck as he came to be known graduated from Columbia Law School and went to work on Wall St. He subsequently met many of the rich and famous who circulated in the financial world of New York. He became friends with a Mr. Ferdinand Ward who was also an up-and-coming financial whizz so to speak. They formed the firm of Grant & Ward with offices in The Marine Bank Building in New York City. The fact that Ferdinand Ward was operating a ponzee scheme did not become known until the firm failed and all who were involved were forced into bankruptcy, including Grant and his wife Julia. The New York "Times" stated that "Mr. Ward invented mythical Government contracts by promising enormous interest and enormous profits" Grant and his wife Julia let him handle the purchase of their home on E. 66th St. in Manhattan, but he pocketed the money and never told the Grants that the previous owner still held title to the house. In the end, the firm of Grant & Ward owed investors a grand total of \$16,792,647 with assets a little over \$67,000. "On the evening of the failure Grant and Julia sat down and began to count how much cash they had, Grant had eighty dollars in his pocket; after going through her purse and going over to the cookie jar Julia produced \$130.00. They could not cash a check because their account had been frozen." Moreover, Grant would have to sell his many possessions that he received from foreign dignitaries and articles he had acquired during the Civil War to satisfy creditors. At this time Cornelius Vanderbilt stepped up and purchased all the articles of memorabilia so that they would remain in the public domain. He also forgave the loan of \$150,000 that he had loaned the Marine Bank firm. Thus ended the first tragedy of the year 1884-1885.

The Grants retreated to their home in Long Branch, New Jersey, while they and others tried to figure out what to do about the situation. It was during a neighbor's visit on June 2, 1884, that he bit into a peach and almost choked. He thought a bee had been in the peach and stung him. Day after day the situation got worse, and he finally, at Julia's insistence, called in his personal physician, Dr. John Hancock Douglas. Douglas declared his condition serious. It was shortly after this that Grant and several of his friends decided a book about his Civil War campaigns would help Julia and himself face the future. Vanderbilt cleared up the financial mess regarding the residence at 3 E. 66 St. in New York so they could have a place to call home. He also purchased Grants memorabilia so the public would eventually have access to it. Grant approached the Century Publishing Co. and they agreed to publish his memoirs and handle the sales. All through November of 1884 Grant continued to write. Dr. George Shrady, the microbiologist and surgeon, took control of the situation, spending as much time with the General as he could knowing that Grant wanted to forge ahead with his writing. "In mid-November, Mark Twain, one of the many prominent individuals who had occasionally dropped in to see Grant in his office at Grant & Ward stopped to see Grant to see how he was doing. "Twain was close to publishing his novel "Huckleberry Finn" and he wanted to publish Grant's memoirs himself." As Twain was going home that night he came upon two figures walking ahead of him in the rain, one was Richard Gilder, the Century Company's senior editor. The Century Publishing Co. had recently agreed to publish Grants memoir and they had also recently bought three chapters of Huckleberry Finn for serialization in the Century Magazine. Twain caught up to them and they went to dinner on the way back. As Charles Flood put it in his book, "The next morning, Twain made his way to Grant's home. He found Grant and his son Fredrick in the library going over the final reading of the Century Contract. Twain spoke up, 'Don't sign it. Let Colonel Fred read it to me first.'" Eventually Grant after some hesitation read the contract and took Twain's advice and went with the American Publishing Co. of Hartford instead of Century. Twain stepped in and secured a \$10,000 immediate advance which was not customary at that time. To top it all off, Twain said to Grant, "Sell me the memoirs, General...I have a checkbook in my pocket; take my check for fifty thousand dollars now and let's draw up the contract" This brought the final months of Grant's life under control so to speak. So, in the end Grant's sense of loyalty and his lasting friendships came to his rescue when he needed them most.

As the months progressed Grant's condition worsened, he had much trouble swallowing water and ate almost nothing. It became evident that his final days were approaching. Among the visitors he received was General, now Governor, Simon Bolivar Buckner, the same man who surrendered Ft. Donaldson to him twenty-five years earlier. Grant received countless donations through the mail from both Union and Confederate veterans as gifts from a united people. At this time, it was decided to get the General out of the heat of New York City and move him to a cooler climate, so on June 16, 1885 he left Grand Central Station for his final journey to Mt. McGregor, New York. A reporter from Harper's Magazine wrote this: "At station after station on the route knots of people were waiting to wave greeting and godsend." Grant was dozing when Julia woke him as the train neared West Point, a place near and dear to his heart. He traveled in a sleeping car owned by one of the Vanderbilts, another expression of friendship and loyalty from those that knew him. They were there when the old General needed them most. Maybe that is Grants legacy to us all!

When they arrived in Mt. McGregor, Grant continued to write, he received a few visitors; but his main objective was to finish his memoirs. The mail and well wishes continued unabated. He finished his memoirs on July 20. He and his doctor tried to make it down the hill to the hotel there, but the journey was too much for the General. On July 22 the New York Times headlined, "DEATH COMING VERY NEAR," and on July 23, 1885, Grant died surrounded by his family and friends there at Mt. McGregor, New York. The author goes into the funeral procession and pall bearers. Joseph Johnston, his old nemesis being one. Other attendees were William T. Sherman, President Grover Cleveland, Winfield Scott Hancock, and General Rufus Ingalls, Grant's roommate at West Point. The procession proceeded up to New York's Riverside Park where his body rests today.

The book itself is easy to read and follow. Mr. Flood has evidently done much research into the topic and I for one learned a lot about Grant's last year on earth. For anyone interested in the life and death of our 18th President, I would highly recommend it. I found my copy at a Books-A-Million bookstore but I'm sure one can find it on Amazon or any other mail order site. You will not be disappointed.

--Paul Siedel

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Author of *Cease Firing! Life and Death at the Swope Manor*

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Join us for our annual Fall Field Trip to Gettysburg National Military Park where we will study the three-day battle at Gettysburg. Dates include travel time. See our website for more details.

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"The Three General Presidents – Washington, Grant, and Eisenhower"  
**Speaker: Steve Pettyjohn**  
Past President of the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable and founding member of the World at War Forum based at the Westlake Porter Library.

**November 13, 2024**  
"A Thousand May Fall - An Immigrant Regiment's Civil War: Life, Death, and Survival in the Union Army"  
**Speaker: Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan**  
Associate Professor and Chairperson of History at Sam Houston State University. Author of multiple books about the Civil War and Pulitzer Prize finalist.

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**December 11, 2024**  
"Connivers in Corsets – Female Spies and Smugglers during the Civil War"  
**Speaker: Barbara Toncheff**  
A retired Cardiac Technician with an ancestor who was a famous female Union spy and is buried in historic Woodland Cemetery. Barbara provides a living historian presentation as a female Civil War spy.

**January 8, 2025 – Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate**  
"Five-minute lesson on some aspect of the Civil War era that would be compelling to today's college aged student"  
**Moderator: Judge William Vodrey**

**February 12, 2025**  
"You will never kill the Devil with a sword: Shaker Pacifism During the Civil War"  
**Speaker: Shaker Historical Society.**

**March 12, 2025**  
"Lincoln's Lawyers"  
**Speaker: Judge William Vodrey**  
Past President, Cleveland Civil War Roundtable and member of American Battlefield Trust and Blue and Gray Education Society.

**April 9, 2025**  
"Civil War Medicine"  
**Speaker: Dr. Fred Marquez**  
A Medical Oncologist and a Clinical Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at the Northeast Ohio Medical University. He is also a Flight Surgeon and the Commander of the 179th Medical Group, Ohio Air National Guard.


**May 14, 2025**  
"Hellmira: The Union's Most Infamous Civil War Prison Camp – Elmira, NY"  
**Speaker: Derek Maxfield**  
Associate Professor of History at Genesee Community College in Batavia, New York and Author of *Hellmira: The Union's Most Infamous Civil War Prison Camp-Elmira, NY and Man of Fire: William Tecumseh Sherman in the Civil War*.

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**MEETING TIMES/LOCATION**  
**HOLIDAY INN INDEPENDENCE**  
6001 ROCKSIDE ROAD, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

6:00 PM – Drinks & Social Hour / 6:30 PM – Dinner  
7:30 PM – 9 PM – Meeting & Presentation

Dinner & Lecture are \$35 per person.  
Make Reservations 7 days before the meeting.  
Reserve your spot via email: [ccwrreservec@gmail.com](mailto:ccwrreservec@gmail.com)



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