



The Charger

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P. O. Box 18900, Cleveland, Ohio 44118

MARCH 1993

314th MEETING

VOL. 14 #7

DATE: Wednesday, March 10, 1993

PLACE: The Hermit Club

SUBJECT:

his topic is
"The Journal of Stonewall Jackson's topographer, Jedediah Hotchkiss. The best mapmaker of the Confederacy."

SPEAKER:

Dr. Archie P. McDonald, A native Texan, Dr. McDonald is a Professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University at Nacogdoches, Texas. He has written or edited 23 books and has authored numerous articles and book reviews in such publications as Civil War History and Blue & Gray Magazine. His best known Civil War contribution was as editor of Make Me a Map of the Valley: The Journal of Jedediah Hotchkiss 1862-1865. This work has been listed in Civil War Times Illustrated as one of the One Hundred Best Books on the Civil War.



CARTOGRAPHER JEDEDIAH HOTCHKISS

TIME:

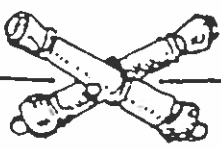
Drinks 6PM

Dinner 7PM

RESERVATIONS:

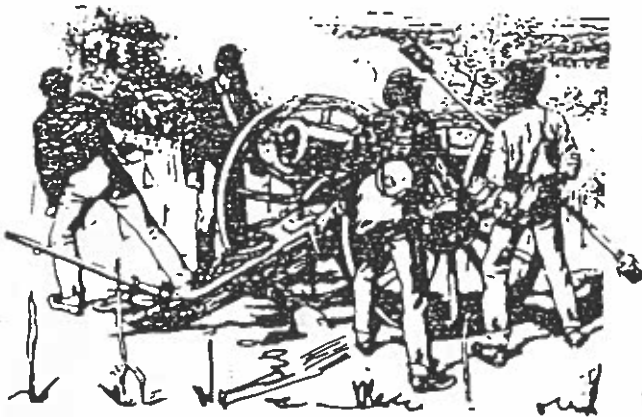
Please call Kevin Callahan at 321-3004 or 591-1920
RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!

*It is my pleasure to introduce
this.*



CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

1957 * 1993



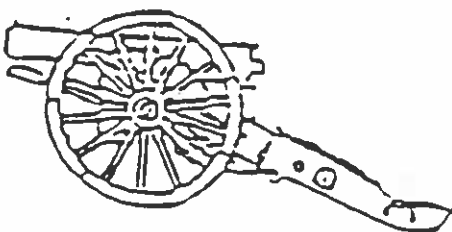
President - Kevin R. Callahan
Vice Pres. - Bob Batisti
Secretary - Gerry Porter
Treasurer - John Sutula
Editor of the Charger -
Brian Kowell

Editorial Office

10065 N. Church Dr.
Parma Hgts., Ohio 44130
(216) 888-1879



PLEASE LET US KNOW
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
YOUR NEW ADDRESS...



Preserve Your Battlefields!

Last Month's Meeting

Judge Ken R. Callahan, Jr. regaled our Roundtable with the exploits of his great-great grandfather Lt. James K. O'Reilly of the 8th OVI.

O'Reilly, a large strong man for his age, was an Irish immigrant from County Cork. He settled in Cleveland in 1858. He was employed as a stonecutter at Jones Co. when the Civil War erupted. Eager to enlist he and good friend Thomas Galway first tried the Cleveland Greys - a local militia unit - but thought they were only "bandbox soldiers" and instead enlisted in Co. B (the Hibernian Guards) of the 8th OVI. They were mustered in at Camp Taylor located near E. 85th St. and Kinsman and then sent to Camp Dennison.

O'Reilly and the 8th Ohio joined the army in West Virginia where it was actively engaged in campaigning until July 1862 when it joined the Army of the Potomac at Harrison's Landing, Va. Antietam was the hardest fought battle for one day in which the regiment was engaged. It was there that O'Reilly was conspicuous for his bravery in helping to lead a bayonet charge at the Bloody Lane.

The regiment was instrumental in repulsing Pickett's and Pettigrew's charge at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. The 8th Ohio poured an enfilading fire into Pettigrew's left flank from an advanced and exposed position in the Union line. O'Reilly almost missed the fight. On the hot, dusty march to Gettysburg, O'Reilly suffered severe sunstroke, but against his surgeon's orders he joined his regiment in the fight. This illness was to have long lasting effects on his life.

Following Gettysburg, the unit was transported to New York City to help quell the draft riots. It was here that O'Reilly was introduced to Susan O'Brien who would eventually become his bride.

After the war O'Reilly and his bride returned to Cleveland and settled at 189 Quincy St. where he resumed work as a stonecutter and raised 9 children. The after-effects of his illness sapped his strength and affected his work. He was unsuccessful in his campaign after the war to secure a government pension and died in 1900.

ANNOUNCING
the **100**TH
Anniversary
of
BRANDY STATION
BATTLE
to be held
at
OATLANDS
PLANTATION

The clash of sabers and rattle of carbines will once again be heard this year near Brandy Station, Virginia. This time, Confederate and Union cavalry will be fighting to save the ground where 20,000 horsemen engaged in the western hemisphere's largest cavalry battle on June 9, 1863.

More than 300 cavalrymen (half Union, half Confederate) are expected to assemble on July 10 and 11 at Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg, Virginia. The event has the potential to be the largest historical equestrian event ever staged on the continent.

"The mission of the program is to commemorate the 130th Anniversary of the Battle of Brandy Station and to heighten public awareness of the historical significance of the Brandy Station area and the imminent threat of development in the area," said Nick Nichols of the Brandy Station Foundation. "It will also play an integral part in generating capital to underwrite an intensive public relations campaign to save the battlefield."

Mounted reenactors will be joined

PRESERVATION REPORT

LINCOLN MUSEUM TO STAY IN FORT WAYNE

The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has survived an eight month struggle for its life. The museum, located in a city where Lincoln never lived or visited, contains hundreds of thousands of Lincoln-related museum objects, newspaper clippings, manuscript files and photographs. High operating costs and low usage had threatened the museum's existence and Fort Wayne location, especially after the departure last summer of its director (and frequent contributor to CIVIL WAR Magazine) Mark E. Neely, Jr.

But Lincoln National Corporation, the insurance conglomerate that sponsors the museum, announced late last year that the museum will remain open and stay in Fort Wayne, although it will be moved to a different location in the northeastern Indiana City. To increase the museum's visibility and usage, according to Lincoln National CEO Ian Rolland, the company "has decided that some of the museum collection should be shared with other museums on a rotating basis so that the Lincoln heritage can be shared with more people."

A search is underway for a new director to replace Pulitzer-Prize winner Mark Neely.

Inquiries can be directed to the Museum's task force chairman, Mike McMath, Senior Vice President for Pension Investment, Lincoln National, 1300 South Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46801.

by 100 support infantrymen as well as horse-drawn artillery. The public will have the opportunity to watch squadron drill demonstrations, visit cavalry camps, and view a tactical demonstration of the Battle of Brandy Station (Beverly Ford/St. James Church).

Oatlands is located six miles south of Leesburg, Virginia, on U.S. Route 15. It is 35 miles from Washington, D.C.



For information contact Oatlands, (703) 777-3174, or the Loudoun County Visitor's Bureau, 1-800-752-6118. Parties interested in participation contact: Rich Ellsworth 28 Wintermute Road Newton, New Jersey 07860.

IRISH MEMORIAL FUND STARTED IN BOSTON

Over 100 troops in authentic Civil War period costumes, armed with muskets and cannons, recreated American history late last year on the Boston Common Parade Ground with a display of encampments, parade drills, infantry maneuvers and flag displays. Part of the City of Boston's Veterans Day celebration, the event also launched an effort by city officials and Irish groups to provide a permanent maintenance fund for the memorial to Thomas Cass, an Irish native who led the famous Irish 9th regiment into battle and died at Malvern Hill.

Boston Mayor Raymond L. Flynn said, "It is essential that we remember all the veterans who fought to ensure freedom, democracy and civil rights for the United States. Today we honor the Irish in America who never hesitated to answer the call to defend this



great nation. It is a proud accomplishment that Irish Americans account for the highest number of Congressional medals of honor of any ethnic group."

David Hurke, President of the Massachusetts Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) presented city officials with a

check for \$1,000 toward the \$15,000 maintenance fund. Burke said,

"We're proud to assist the City of

Boston in restoring the Cass Memorial Statue and look forward to working with the City on maintaining other Irish memorials in the future." The event was sponsored by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Massachusetts Order of Hibernians, and the Irish Brigade Association. *Donations to the Cass Memorial maintenance fund can be sent to: The Thomas Cass Memorial Fund; c/o The Boston Five Cents Savings Bank 10 School Street, Boston, MA 02108; Attn: Steve Kostas*

UNUSUAL PARK LEGISLATION PROPOSED IN VIRGINIA

Virginia Congressman Frank Wolf announced plans to introduce in February legislation to create a Shenandoah Valley National Battlefield. The legislation is unique in several respects. For one thing, it has been drafted not by lawmakers but by historic preservationists, and is being promoted not by lobbyists but by a coalition of landowners, preservationists and government officials. "This legislation is coming from the bottom up," says A. Wilson Greene of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, a promoter of the bill, "not from the top down." For another, "the heart of this legislation," in the words of John P. Monahan III, president of the Stonewall Brigade Foundation and a drafter of the bill, "is not the acquisition of land by the federal government, but the creation of partnerships and incentives to allow people to continue to farm and own their land while preserving its historic value."

The bill would create a Heritage Commission whose membership would be mostly local landowners and officials. The commission would be empowered to authorize cash payments to farmers who agreed to continue to farm their land and maintain its historic appearance, to protect it with easements, or to transfer ownership. But the proposed legislation prohibits acquisition by condemnation—a provision designed to head off opposition from property-rights groups, and that also causes concern among experienced park managers. Congressman Wolf held public meetings on the bill and announced his intention to introduce it before the National Park Service had released its final report on Civil War battlefields in the Shenandoah, the draft of which was released in November of 1991.



Rev. Fr. Corby Chaplain Of Irish Brigade

men before going into the fight. While this is customary in the armies of the Catholic countries in Europe, it was, perhaps, the first time it was ever witnessed on this continent.

"Father Corby stood upon a large rock in front of the brigade. Addressing the men, he explained what he was about to do, saying that each one could receive the benefit of the absolution by making a sincere act of contrition and firmly resolving to embrace the first opportunity of confessing their sins, urging them to do their duty well, and reminding them of the high and sacred nature of their trust as soldiers and the noble object for which they fought, ending by saying that the Catholic church refuses Christian burial to the soldier who turns his back upon the foe or deserts his flag. The brigade was standing at 'order arms' and as he closed his address every man fell on his knees, and with head bowed down. Then, stretching his right hand toward the brigade, Father Corby pronounced the words of the general absolution....

"The scene was more than impressive; it was awe-inspiring. Nearby stood Hancock surrounded by a brilliant array of officers who had profound silence in the ranks of the II Corps, yet over to the left...the roar of the battle rose and swelled and reechoed through the woods, making music more sublime than ever sounded through cathedral aisles. The act seemed to be in harmony with all the surroundings. I do not think there was a man in the brigade who did not offer up a heartfelt prayer. For some it was their last. They knelt there in their grave clothes....

"The division moved off by the left flank and marched rapidly. We had hardly got under way when the enemy's batteries opened and shell began to fall around us...."



from Witness to Gettysburg by Richard Wheeler pp 200-201

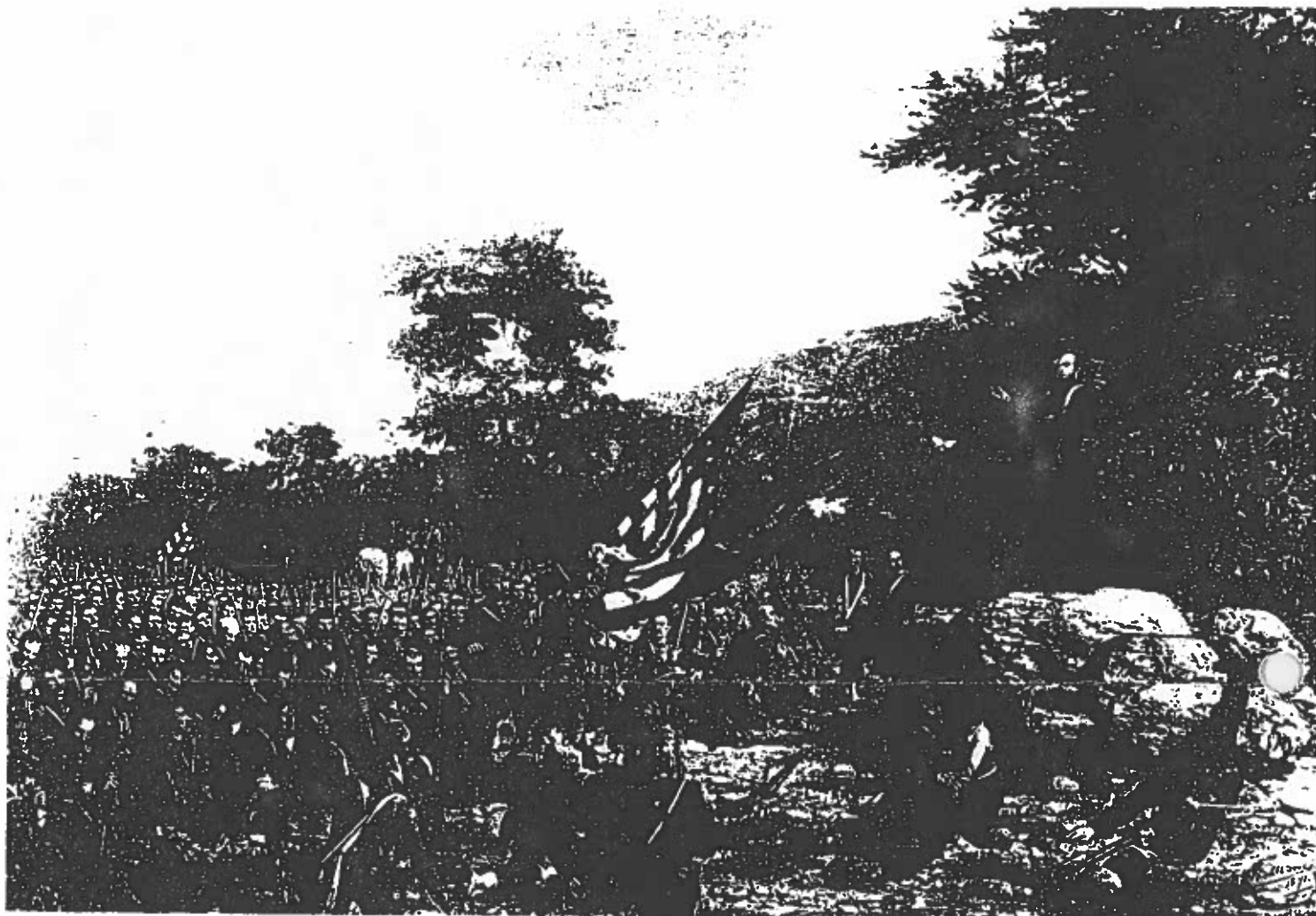


Please Make Reservation

Please call Kevin Callahan at 321-3004
or 591-1920 ASAP! RESERVATIONS ARE A
MUST!



SCENES I'D LIKE TO HAVE SEEN



On the afternoon of July 2, 1863, Brigadier General John C. Caldwell's division of Hancock's II Corps was forming on Cemetery ridge, its mission to advance to the Wheat Field and support Sickles' III Corps which was under heavy attack.

As recalled by one of the division's regimental commanders, Major St. Clair A. Mulholland:

"There is yet a few minutes to spare before starting, and the time is occupied in one of the most impressive religious ceremonies I have ever witnessed. The Irish Brigade [composed of the 28th Massachusetts, 69th New York, 38th New York, and 116th Pennsylvania] which had been commanded formerly by General Thomas Francis Meagher, and whose green flag had been unfurled in every battle in which the Army of the Potomac was engaged ... and now commanded by Colonel Patrick Kelly, and to which our regiment [the 116th Pennsylvania] was attached, formed part of this division. The brigade stood in column of regiments closed in mass. As a large majority of its members were Catholics, the chaplain of the brigade, Reverend William Corby, proposed to give a general absolution to all the

With one dead and one wounded soldier sprawled at his feet, Father William Corby stands on a boulder to give absolution to kneeling troops of the Irish Brigade about to go into battle. Wrote a Pennsylvania soldier who witnessed the ceremony: "No doubt many a prayer from men of Protestant faith who could conscientiously not bow the knee went up to God in that impressive moment."

MORE THAN YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW
ABOUT

JEDEDIAH HOTCHKISS

(1828 1899)



CARTOGRAPHER JEDEDIAH HOTCHKISS

Born near Windsor, New York on November 30, 1828 Jedediah Hotchkiss became the Civil War's most noted cartographer. In 1847, while on a walking tour of Virginia, he became so enamored of the Shenandoah Valley that he decided to make it his home. He began tutoring children in Augusta County and was rewarded when local farmers took up a collection to help him start the Mossy Creek Academy. Later he, along with his brother Nelson, founded another school - Loch Willow Academy. Both were successful. It was in his spare time away from teaching that Hotchkiss taught himself the science of cartography.

When the Civil War began, Hotchkiss, deeply attached to his adopted state, closed his school and offered his services as a mapmaker to General Garnett in Western Virginia. He officially entered the army on March 23, 1862, and three days later he secured an appointment to Stonewall Jackson's staff with the rank of Captain. Jackson had heard of his topographical talents and grossly lacking knowledge in this area had sent for him.

Jackson ordered him to make a map of the Shenandoah Valley from Harper's Ferry to Lexington, "showing all the points of offense and defense between those two points." Hotchkiss, with a small escort or sometimes alone, scoured the countryside gathering his data, sometimes riding as far as 35 miles in one day thru all kinds of weather. With his quick perception of terrain, Hotchkiss made precise topographical readings from a transit compass, pocket compass, and altimeter. From these he drew rough maps in his field sketchbook. Once back at camp, he would often labor long into the night, converting his extensive notes into accurate maps. Jackson came to depend more and more on Hotchkiss' services. "Do not be afraid of making too many," the General once told his cartographer. On more than one occasion Jackson had Hotchkiss lead his units into battle, utilizing his intimate knowledge of the topography to bring his units into advantageous positions.

After Jackson's death, Hotchkiss, though deeply grieved and disgusted with war, continued as topographical engineer for the General's successors. At Cedar Creek, for instance, his knowledge of the terrain allowed Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early to surprise the Federal army. He served through the campaign until after the disaster at Waynesboro. He gave himself up upon notification of Lee's surrender. By now a Major, he was arrested, but General Grant released him and had him returned to his maps. Grant even paid for the right to copy some of them for his own reports.

Jedediah Hotchkiss resumed his teaching career after the Civil War, but in a few years left the profession to promote the restoration and development of Virginia's natural resources. For the rest of his life this mission, along with the Presbyterian Church and Veteran affairs, dominated his activities. With William Allen he published The Battlefields of Virginia (1867), then wrote a volume for Confederate Military History (1899) on Virginia's role in the war. He died on January 17, 1899. His journal - Make me a Map of the Valley - was published posthumously in 1973. As one historian has noted: "His name appears more frequently than that of any other topographer in the pages of the Official Records, and no less than half of all the Confederate maps that eventually found their way into the Atlas were from his hand."

- Encyclopedia of the Civil War by Patricia Faust
- Who was Who in the Civil War by Stewart Sifakis
- The Civil War Dictionary by Mark M. Boatner III
- Destroying the Yanks: Jackson's Valley Campaign
by Champ Clarke

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE FIELD TRIP

CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA
September 30 - October 1, 2, & 3, 1993

The 130th anniversary of these two battles will be celebrated this fall. (Chickamauga - Sept. 19-20, 1863; Chattanooga - Nov. 23-25, 1863). The campaigns for the control of these two vital links into the South lasted from August to November. Our visit will provide us the same weather and foilage experienced during the actual battles. We will be able to see why Rosecrans and Bragg had difficulty observing their own positions, let alone those of the enemy on the densely wooded Chickamauga battlefield. At Chattanooga good walking shoes will help you climb up Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain to view "The Battle Above the Clouds".

Our battlefield leader will be James Ogden III, Historian at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. Mr. Ogden has spoken to our Roundtable in the past and is scheduled to speak at our September meeting just three weeks before the trip.

Our headquarters will be at the Best Western Battlefield Inn, Rooms are \$39.95 w/2 queen size beds in each. We must tell the hotel how many rooms to hold for us so please call me NOW to confirm your reservation. My work number is 696-1030 and is answered 24-hours a day. Thanks

Norton London



St. Pat's Day has military ties

By THOMAS LEIBRANDT

Every year at this time, we're reminded that St. Patrick wasn't born in Ireland and there weren't any snakes there for him to drive out. But did you know that the name Patrick did not become popular in Ireland until the 18th century? And then it was in honor of Patrick Sarsfield, the Irish military hero — not the fifth century saint. One theory is that the Gaels so revered the name that they didn't want it to become common.

The celebration of St. Patrick's Day in this country owes a great deal to Irish military history. The holiday had been celebrated here since colonial times, and the festivities really geared up after the great waves of Irish immigration in the 1840s and 1850s. But the parading Civil War veterans added pomp and respectability to the festivities. For it was the bravery of Irish regiments in the Civil War that gained the Irish their first measure of respect in this country.

More than 150,000 Irish-born officers and men served the Union. Most came from New York, followed, in order, by Pennsylvania, Illinois, Massachusetts, Ohio, Missouri and Wisconsin. Another 40,000 Irish fought for the South in units such as the Louisiana Tigers, the Louisiana Irish Regiment, the Emerald Light Infantry (Charleston, S.C.) and the Emerald Guards (Mobile, Ala.).

The Irish regiments were easily recognized by the green flags they carried. On more than one occasion, Confederate officers were heard to exclaim, "Here come those damn green flags again."

The Pennsylvania 69th was described by Gen. Thomas F. Meagher as "a stubborn Irish regiment with its heart as big as its muscle — proud as a true chief of some old Celtic clan could be of the Green Flag it carried." At Gettysburg, Pickett's charge struck the part of a wall held by the 69th Pennsylvania. The Confederates "swarmed right over them." As some other Union regiments broke and ran, the 69th, under the Stars and Stripes and their green flag, held that wall in desperate hand-to-hand fighting, and, in the words of a witness, "did not yield one inch."

The most famous unit, the Irish Brigade, consisted originally of the 69th, 88th and 63rd New York. In addition to the Stars and Stripes, each of these regiments carried a green silk flag, embroidered with a golden harp, wreath of shamrocks, sunburst,

and the Irish motto, "Never retreat from the clash of spears."

At Antietam, the 63rd New York had its colors shot down 16 times, each time to be raised again. The colors of the 69th New York had fallen for the eighth time, when Gen. Meagher called "Boys, raise the colors and follow me!" Captain James McGee rushed forward and cried, "I'll follow you!" As McGee raised the bullet-riddled flag, a bullet split the staff. McGee raised the flag again, waving it defiantly at the Confederates.

Before Fredricksburg, the Boston Irish of the 28th Massachusetts and the Philadelphia Irish of the 116th Pennsylvania joined the brigade. The losses had been so heavy that, even with the two new regiments, the brigade was only one-third of its original strength. The green flags of the New York regiments had suffered terribly, as well, and had been returned to New York while new ones were being prepared.

The only green flag to go into battle that day was that of the 28th Massachusetts, and it flew in the center of the line. Meagher had evergreens collected and told his troops they could still fight for their "adopted land beneath the immortal banner of green." Each member of the brigade put a sprig in his hat; wreaths of evergreens were hung on the tattered Stars and Stripes.

Of the 1,200 men of the brigade, almost half would be lost in the attack. "Never were men so brave," said Robert E. Lee. A correspondent from the London Times observed that "Never at Fontenoy, Albuera or a Waterloo was more undaunted courage displayed by the sons of Erin than during those six frantic dashes which they directed against the almost impregnable position of their foe. ... The spectator can remember nothing but their desperate courage. ... The bodies which lie in dense masses within forty yards of the muzzles of Colonel Walton's guns are the best evidence of what manner of men they were who pressed on to death with the dauntlessness of a race which has gained glory on a thousand battlefields, and never more richly deserved it than at the foot of Marye's Heights on the 13th day of December, 1862."

For many Irish-Americans, especially the descendants of the famine immigrants of the 19th century, the link to Ireland has been lost. But even if you don't know which townland your Irish ancestors came from, you can still find your heritage at places like Antietam, Gettysburg and Fredricksburg.

Leibrandt is a free-lance writer in Abington, Pa.





"When with Hunter on his raid to Lynchburg, my company was on rear-guard duty. One day while riding along the river levee with my Lieutenant, his horse slipped and both he and his horse were precipitated down the steep bank. The Lieutenant went under the water head first. He was smoking his pipe at the time, and when he struggled out of the water he still held the pipe in his teeth. Without thinking of his discomfort he puffed and pulled on his pipe and remarked dryly: "I do believe my pipe is out."

by E.J. Gilman from the National Tribune May 11, 1911
submitted by Marty Graham

Alonzo Maynard, Co.I, 11th Conn.: "I will tell how the Johnnies served me. I received a flesh wound in the right hand at New Berne, North Carolina. At Antietam, I was shot through the right lung and shoulder with four balls, splintering the ribs in front, breaking the collar bone twice, destroying the shoulder joint, passing through the lung, striking the spine and knocking off four ribs, breaking the shoulder blade in three or four pieces, splintering the spine badly and breaking one vertebra. Thirteen pieces of bone came out of the wounds. My right lung is gone - torn in pieces and came out of wounds. There are 16 separate wounds through the right breast and shoulder. Some of them were as large as a silver dollar. I was confined to my bed five years. When I was wounded the doctors said there was no help for me, and it was several days before they dressed my wounds. I had a strong constitution and Yankee grit. I am confined to the house most of the time. I was in a tent hospital near Frederick City, Md. May God bless the head doctor of that hospital. I think he saved my life."

J.R. Blackwell: "James M. Miller, Co.A, 98th Ill., was wounded 12 times at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, 1863, all gunshots, viz.: left arm, left thigh, left hip, left knee, two in right leg, right knee, right thigh, right arm, left side of body, left side of breast, right groin and right hand - all done within an hour. He was 17 months in a Rebel prison, 10 months of the time in Andersonville; wore a ball and chain 60 days and nights; was recaptured twice while trying to make his escape; once caught by bloodhounds.

John S. Ferguson, Co. F., 28th Iowa: "On the 8th of April, 1864, in action at Sabine Crossroads, La., I received six wounds in the left hand and arm, one in the left side of the nose, one in the left groin, one in the left side of the neck, and loss of my right arm at the elbow, all shell wounds; and one wound in the right leg with a musket ball. I was taken prisoner and at that time weighed 200 pounds. On the day of my parole, I weighed 104 pounds. I am minus a right arm, the hearing of my left ear, and the sight of my left eye, and I still live, getting the pifful sum of \$30 per month."

from the National Tribune May 27, 1886

From The President's Desk



Gentlemen,

We are fortunate to have Mr. Archie McDonald address us this month on the subject of Stonewall Jackson and his topographer, Jedediah Hotchkiss. Mr. McDonald is a renowned professor of history currently teaching at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas.

I hope we have an excellent turn-out for Archie McDonald on March 10th.

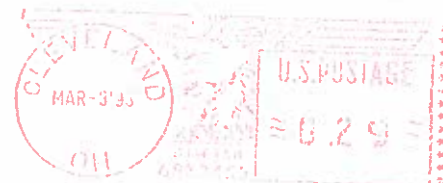
Hope to see everyone at The Hermit Club on March 10th.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Callahan



THE CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
P.O. BOX 13900
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113



Kevin Callahan
21149 Colby Rd.
Shaker Hts., OH 44122