



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P.O. BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101

OCTOBER 1968

VOL. 12 NO. 1

95th Meeting

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 1968

SPEAKER: DR. RICHARD D. MUDD

SUBJECT: LINCOLN ASSASSINATION

PLACE: THE HERMIT CLUB, DOIGE COURT

PRELIMINARIES: 6 PM DINNER 7 PM

DRS. MUDD

One of the eight persons tried for conspiracy after the assassination of President Lincoln was Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, a Maryland physician who set the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth. Sentenced to life imprisonment, he later was pardoned.

A grandson of Dr. Mudd, Dr. Richard D. Mudd of Saginaw, Mich., will describe for the Round Table on Tuesday night the assassination of Lincoln and the trial and sentencing of the seven men and one woman arrested as conspirators. His talk will be illustrated with more than 100 slides.

Dr. Richard Mudd, a native of Anacostia, District of Columbia, has made an exhaustive study of the assassination and was instrumental in persuading Congress to erect a monument to the memory of his grandfather. This, as Dr. Mudd has said, "is a tacit admission by the government that Dr. Samuel Mudd was innocent."

Entering Georgetown University in 1917, Richard Dyer Mudd received his A.B. diploma in 1921, his master's the next year, a Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1925 and his medical degree in 1926. He served his internship at Tuberculosis Hospital in Washington and the Henry Ford Hospital, and in 1928 entered the then--new field of industrial medicine with the Ternstedt Manufacturing Company of Detroit, and, from time to time, other divisions of General Motors.

He transferred in 1933 to the Chevrolet Division at Cincinnati, where he spent three years before going to Saginaw as medical director for the Chevrolet Grey Iron Foundry and two other divisions of Chevrolet.

Interested in the military from his cadet days in college, Dr. Mudd had reached the rank of major before the outbreak of World War II, when he went on active service. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel the following year.

He was executive officer to the surgeon at Scott Field, Illinois; director of the Department of Field Medicine and Surgery at Carlisle, Pennsylvania; surgeon of Duncan Field, Texas, and surgeon of the San Antonio Air Service Command, which was formed in February, 1943. He was awarded the Legion of Merit and in July, 1946 returned to civilian life at Saginaw.

Dr. Samuel A. Mudd was born December 20, 1833, in Charles County, Maryland of wealthy parents, his father, Henry Mudd, being a successful planter and owner of many slaves. From his earliest years young Sam was distinguished for his kindness and gentleness in his dealings with others. At the age of fourteen he enrolled in St. John's College, Frederick, Maryland. He went on to Georgetown College in the District of Columbia, where he completed his collegiate courses. He was very proficient in foreign languages and mastered the French, Latin and Greek tongues along with such musical instruments as the piano, flute and violin. Samuel studied medicine and surgery at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, and was graduated in March of 1856. His schooling completed, he set up his practice in his home county and soon after was married to his childhood sweetheart, Sarah Dyer, whom always affectionately called "Frankie". Frankie bore him four children, and Dr. Sam Mudd, who was a very God-fearing as well as God-loving man, had for a while, abt of heaven on earth, as a devoted father and husband.

At 4:00 a.m. on April 15, 1865 a series of events transpired, changing the Mudd's life completely. A man with a broken leg, assisted by a companion, was admitted to the Mudd's parlour, whereupon Mudd set the leg and made the patient comfortable for the night. The two visitors left early the following morning. Communication being what it was in those days, Mudd had no way of knowing President Lincoln had been assassinated or that his patient was the perpetrator of the deed. He was, however, suspicious of the men, for he had noticed his patient's false whiskers. When Dr. Mudd heard of Lincoln's death, he reported the incident of the broken leg and his nightly visitors to the proper authorities. Mudd had met Booth casually but had seen him only a few times, never socially.

The North's anger at their president's death had to be sated; everyone touching on Booth's deed and ensuing flight was arrested, Mudd among them. In spite of his attorney, General Ewing, who was magnificent in his defense of Mudd, Dr. Sam was sentenced to life imprisonment at Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, Florida. He was imprisoned four long years, often in chains, his daily chore being to wash the bastions. In spite of many pleas to the authorities, Mudd would have probably died in prison, for no man in power would befriend him, but for an outbreak of yellow fever in 1868 which struck down every man and officer at the prison. Dr. Mudd volunteered his services and distinguished himself by working twenty hours a day to try to save as many men as he could from the dread disease, without regard for his own health or safety. Many men died, but the remainder petitioned President Johnson on behalf of Dr. Mudd, requesting a pardon.

President Johnson finally did realize that Dr. Mudd was a victim of mad mob zeal; after four long years he was finally pardoned. His health broken by the years in prison, Mudd returned home to his family and renewed the practice of medicine. He lived only fifteen years, dying of pneumonia on January 10, 1883.

As one reads this man's life story and examines the records and letters he left behind him, one realizes what a great miscarriage of justice this was. Dr. Mudd's only crime was to carry out the oath he took when he became a doctor....to help all men in sickness. It is ablot on our country's conscience that, under the guise of justice, a good man and his name were ruined and intense suffering were brought to him and his family.

Reference: Life of Samuel A. Mudd -- Mudd

FRANK A. MORAN

Our eleventh year is now history. One of the most successful of our Roundtable's memories. It is due to the untiring efforts of an Irish leprechaun known to the members as Pat Moran. While Pat was president the activities of the officers and executive committee fairly hummed with excitement. Take the time the officers and executive committee all received special delivery letters calling a meeting of the group, but forgetting to name the place. Ah! The pixies were at work..eh, Pat. Besides the joking Pat, we of the Roundtable wish to express our sincere thanks for all the hard work, letters written, material sent, etc. that went into making you one of the best presidents we've ever had. God Bless you St. Patrick.

THE COURIER
of
THE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE OF CLEVELAND, OHIO
FOUNDED FEBRUARY 19, 1957

PRESIDENT DONALD A HECKAMAN
VICE PRESIDENT FRANK SCHUHLE
SECRETARY GUY DI CARLO JR.
TREASURER KENNETH CALLAHAN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
TERMS EXPIRING 1969: WILLIAM VICTORY
PAUL GUENTHER
1970: ROY SMITH JR.
BERNARD DREWS

EDITOR, NEWSLETTER...GUY DI CARLO JR....BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO

"WAR OF THE REBELLION - OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES

The civil war, the military records of which are contained in the publication known as the "Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies," extended over a period of more than four years. The armies assembled by the North and South were engaged in almost incessant hostilities over a theater of operations which embraced in its vast area dense forests and cultivated plains, mountain ranges and valleys, sea-coasts and sounds, lakes and rivers, bayous and trackless swamps. The armed participants in this great struggle were numbered by millions and the regiments by thousands.

Bearing these facts in mind, some conception maybe had of the voluminous character of the archives which it was necessary to examine in the course of the compilation of this publication; they embrace the records, Union and Confederate, of every company, battery, regiment, brigade, division, corps and army, as well as those of geographical military departments and divisions, and include the files of the War Department and all of its bureaus. The Union records are to a great extent complete; those of the Confederacy are in many respects deficient.

The work of compiling and publishing the civil war records was projected near the close of the first Administration of President Lincoln, and has been continued during the Administrations of succeeding Presidents, under the direction of Secretaries of War: In order they are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Edwin M. Stanton | 10. Alexander Ramsey |
| 2. Ulysses S. Grant | 11. Robert T. Lincoln |
| 3. John M. Schofield | 12. William C. Endicott |
| 4. John A. Rawlins | 13. Redfield Proctor |
| 5. William T. Sherman | 14. Stephen B. Elkins |
| 6. William W. Belknap | 15. Daniel S. Lamont |
| 7. Alphonso Taft | 16. Russell A. Alger |
| 8. James D. Cameron | 17. Elihu Root |
| 9. George W. McCrary | |

The complete work is divided into four series. Series I starts with Volume 1 and ends with Volume 55. The books of Series I are numbered 1 through 113 and they contain 118,584 pages. Volumes 54 and 55 (serial nos. 112 & 113) have not been published. They were reserved to contain such additional matter as it was decided to publish in the future.

Series I embraces formal reports, both Union & Confederate, of the first seizures of U.S. property in Southern States, and of all military operations in the field.

Series II starts with Volume 1 through Volume 8. Serially they are books 114 through 121 and contain 9321 pages. This series deals with prisoners of war.

Series III starts with Volume 1 through Volume 5. Serially they are books 122 through 126 and contain 5761 pages. This series deals with Union matters not covered in Series I or II.

Series IV starts with Volume 1 through Volume 3. Serially they are books 127 through 129 and contain 3627 pages. This series deals with Confederate matters not covered in Series I or II.

The last book of the work is the General Index (serially book 130) containing 1286 pages.

As a summary therefore, there are 70 volumes, numbering 128 books, 138,579 pages, and 1,006 maps and sketches in the accompanying Atlas.

The total cost of \$2,858,514.67 for the publication was broken down as follows:

Salaries	\$1,265,895.68
Printing & Binding	1,479,447.49
Miscellaneous	113,171.50

The foregoing statement of cost, however, does not include the pay of the army officers detailed from time to time for duty in connection with the work.

IN THE BEGINNING

The initiative of the project of collecting for publication the official records of the civil war appears to have been taken by Congress in a joint resolution approved May 19, 1864, which directed the Secretary of War to--

"Furnish the Superintendent of Public Printing with copies of all such correspondence, by telegraph or otherwise, reports of commanding officers, and documents of every description in relation to the existing rebellion, to be found in the archives of his Department since the first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty, to the present time, and during the continuance of said rebellion, which may be, in his opinion, proper to be published, (which) said correspondence, reports, and documents shall be arranged in their proper chronological order."

In accordance with this resolution the work of preparing the records of the war for convenient use was begun by Colonel E. D. Townsend, Asst. Adjutant-General, who reported on October 31, 1864, that a large part of the official reports of the operations of the armies of the United States had been copied, and that the work progressed.

Especially attention does not appear to have been given to the subject of the Confederate records until Major General H.W. Halleck's visit to Richmond shortly after its capture, when, on May 11, 1865, he wrote Secretary Stanton of his efforts to secure and preserve the archives of the Confederacy, and reported that over ninety large boxes had been shipped to Washington. On July 21, 1865, a division was organized in the Adjutant-General's office "for the collection, safe-keeping and publication of the rebel archives that have come into the possession of the Government," and Dr. Francis Lieber was placed in charge of the work. In his annual report of November following, the Secretary of War reported that eight volumes of the war records, with maps and indexes, had been sent to the printer, but it appears that none of this matter was actually printed, no funds therefore having been appropriated.

On July 27, 1866, the joint resolution of May 19, 1864, was repealed and another enacted that provided for the appointment by the Secretary of War of "a competent person to arrange and prepare for publication the official documents relating to the

rebellion and the operations of the army of the United States, who shall prepare a plan for said publication and estimates of the cost thereof, to be submitted to the Congress at its next session". Peter H. Watson, formerly Assistant Secretary of War, was appointed to the position thus created, but it does not appear that he rendered any service under the appointment, which expired July 27, 1868, by limitation.

FINALLY AN OFFICIAL NAME

The designation of the military records, Union and Confederate, as "The Official Records of the War of the Rebellion" first appeared in the act approved June 23, 1874, which appropriated the sum of \$15,000, to enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of those records.

PRELIMINARY WORK RESUMED

Under this act the preliminary work was resumed by General Townsend. To W.T. Barnard, the private secretary of the Secretary of War, was assigned the duty of examining the telegrams sent and received by the Secretary of War and General Halleck, and the examination of papers in the Adjutant-General's Office was conducted by Joseph W. Kirkley, A.P. Tasker, S.R. Davis and N.W. King, clerks in that office, outside of office hours, in addition to their regular duties, and for a long time without additional compensation. Progress under this arrangement was so discouragingly slow that Secretary Belknap asked and obtained, by the act of March 3, 1875, a further appropriation of \$50,000, which became immediately available. This act provided extra compensation for employees who should perform extra services in this connection.

A reorganization of personnel and methods was then attempted, but the work nevertheless retained a somewhat desultory and disjointed character, being still considered a species of piecework, to be performed in addition to other duties and without interference with them. The chief clerk of the War Department, H.T. Crosby, was designated to compile the records and have general superintendence of the whole work. The energies of Mr. Crosby's force were especially directed to bringing forward the preparation of the Confederate records, so that they might be ready for publication simultaneously with the Union records.

A further appropriation of \$40,000 was made by the act of July 31, 1876. On the 25th of the same month Mr. Barnard was directed, "in addition to his other duties," to take over the direct control of all personnel connected with the work. Orders were also given for the detail from various bureaus of "such clerical force as may be absolutely required for the selection and arrangement for publication of the records of those bureaus; such duty not to interfere with the regular labor of the clerks so employed." Mr. Barnard retained charge of the work less than a year, being relieved at his own request, May 26, 1877, when Thomas J. Saunders, a clerk on the work, was designated to "perform all the duties of superintendent," without additional compensation.

LITTLE PROGRESS - PRELIMINARY PRINTS

By the act of March 3, 1877, another appropriation of \$20,000 was made. Up to December 1, 1877, \$125,000 had been appropriated for the work, which had been carried on spasmodically, without system, under different "superintendents," and with divided responsibility, so that it is not surprising that the work was still in an inchoate and unsatisfactory condition. At that time forty-seven (47) volumes (30 Union and 10 Confederate) on operations had been compiled and put in type, and thirty copies of each had been printed. No attempt had been made to collate the matter so that the records relating to particular actions and events should be assembled in consecutive order. This first compilation was not regarded as satisfactory as it was necessary to consult at least six separate volumes in finding all the matter pertaining to one event. The Secretary of War in his annual report of November 19, 1878, recommended legislation that would have circulated extensively as the "Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies" these volumes, which in later years became known as "preliminary prints." No use has ever been made of them except as printer's copy in

the compilation of the later and regular official publication. A complete set of this preliminary and obsolete edition is in the library of the War Department.

START OF REAL PROGRESS

Perceiving that the work required the undivided attention of a single head, Secretary McCrary, December 14, 1877, detailed Captain Robert N. Scott, Third U.S. Artillery (subsequently major and lieutenant-colonel, same regiment), to take charge of the work. "The Publication Office, War Records," afterward known as the "War Records Office," received its first definite organization under his charge.

The statute of 1874, which directed that the publication be begun, also directed that the Secretary of War have prepared for the Public Printer copies of "all reports, letters, telegrams and general orders, not heretofore copied or printed." This would have resulted in printing a great quantity of matter of no historical interest. Secretary McCrary, therefore, approved a proposition submitted by Scott on January 26, 1878, to omit from the publication--

1. Applications for appointment, arms, contracts, discharge, special exchange, muster in, etc.
2. Charges of disloyalty, etc., preferred by private individuals or anonymously against officers, agents, etc.
3. Claims of all descriptions
4. Tenders of troops or personal service by individuals.
5. Offers for contracts or of inventions
6. Ordinary routine business of the bureaus and departments
7. Unsolicited advice or suggestions from individuals.

After he had been nearly three years in charge of the work, Major Scott, recognizing the necessity of a methodical arrangement of the matter so that the general reader could find in one volume a connected account of any military event, drew up a further plan of publication, and on August 23, 1880, this project, which has been printed in the preface of each volume of the several series, was approved by Secretary Ramsey. It is as follows:

"The first series will embrace the formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States, and of all military operations in the field, with the correspondence, orders, and returns relating specially thereto, and, as proposed, is to be accompanied by an Atlas.

In this series the reports will be arranged according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations (in the chronological order of events), and the Union reports of any event will, as a rule, be immediately followed by the Confederate accounts. The correspondence, etc., not embraced in the 'reports' proper will follow (first Union and next Confederate) in chronological order.

The second series will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns, Union and Confederate, relating to prisoners of war, and (so far as the military authorities were concerned) to State or political prisoners.

The third series will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union authorities (embracing their correspondence with the Confederate officials) not relating specially to the subjects of the first and second series. It will set forth the annual and special reports of the Secretary of War, of the General-in-chief, and of the several staff corps and departments; the calls for troops, and the correspondence between the National and the several State authorities.

The fourth series will exhibit the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Confederate authorities, similar to that indicated for the Union officials, as of the third series, but excluding the correspondence between the Union and Confederate authorities given in that series."

The publication of the records under this plan was at once begun, Volume I of Series I being distributed in July, 1881.

DEFICIENCY OF CONFEDERATE RECORDS

From the outset of the work there was a great deficiency of Confederate records. During the last year of the war the reports rendered by Confederate officers were generally meager and incomplete. Toward the close of hostilities many papers of great historical value were intentionally destroyed by their holders, and a still greater number were concealed. Others were burned with public buildings or were carried off by relic hunters, and in various ways the official Confederate files were depleted.

In view of the distrust with which the Southern people for a while naturally regarded the movements made by the Government with a view to the procurement of the records of the Confederacy, it is not surprising that the efforts of the Department to complete its Confederate files met at first with slight success or assistance. However, Marcus J. Wright, formerly a brigadier-general in the Confederacy, was appointed July 1, 1878, agent for the collection of Confederate archives, and in this capacity he continued employed until the completion of the work. Through his efforts and tact the attitude of the Southern people toward the compilation became more cordial, and, as their confidence increased, records were brought out from their places of concealment and forwarded to the Department as gifts, or deposited as loans. Purchases of collections of Confederate records were made between 1875 and 1879 totaling \$22,000.

The policy of purchasing records was soon abandoned, owing to the great expenditure it would necessitate and the unfair discrimination which such purchases would involve in respect to those who had gratuitously delivered up valuable collections to the Department; but not with standing this change of policy, the war papers of many prominent Confederate as well as Union Officers were subsequently donated to the Government. Among the notable collections in the possession of the War Department maybe mentioned the records of the commands of the Confederate Generals R.E. Lee, Joseph E. Johnston, P.G.T. Beauregard, James Longstreet, Stephen D. Lee, Sterling Price, Leonidas Polk, E. Kirby Smith, J.B. Hood, James R. Chalmers, Samuel Jones, R.S. Ripley, A.P. Stewart and William Steele.

As the fact of these donations became generally known and confidence in the impartiality of the publication increased, numerous and constantly increasing contributions from all parts of the country followed. The former President of the Confederate States, Jefferson Davis, during his lifetime, and his widow after his death, afforded the Government access to his papers relating to the war, and from this source were obtained copies of archives of the greatest historical value.

As the magnitude of the task that had been undertaken became better appreciated and larger means were provided for its prosecution, other former Confederate officers were appointed to assist in the compilation of the Confederate archives, to represent the Confederate interests and to assure impartiality. Among these were Major General Cadmus M. Wilcox, Charles W. Field, L.L. Lomax and Henry Heth, Colonel E.J. Harvie and Major Jed Hotchkiss, chief topographer of the Army of Northern Virginia.

QUESTION OF ADMISSIBILITY

At an early date a question arose as to the admissibility of papers prepared after the close of the war. Several requests were made by former officers, whose duty it had been to make reports of certain events, but whose reports, if made, could not be found, for permission to prepare and submit reports in lieu of the missing ones for publication. In October, 1876, George H. Gordon, formerly brigadier-general, U.S. Volunteers, submitted certain documents for file as a part of the official records. Secretary J.D. Cameron rejected a printed narrative thus submitted on the ground that under the act of Congress approved June 23, 1874, only official documents or authenticated copies thereof could be embraced in the publication. Upon being informed of this action General Gordon stated that from information received by him he understood that reports of military operations in the late war, compiled long afterward, had been filed as official documents for publication.

Secretary Cameron replied that search based upon General Gordon's statement failed to disclose that any reports additional to those made within a reasonable time subsequent to the occurrences which they narrate had been incorporated or filed with such reports. Similar applications were made from time to time by other persons and were denied.

On June 19, 1882, a bill was introduced in Congress, authorizing the Secretary of War to-- "receive, for the period of one year from the passage of this act, from the late commanding officers,...senior officers an now living ...reports of their respective commands; also from those officers who wish to correct errors in their original reports, or who can furnish additional information by more complete and detailed repor

In its report to Congress upon this bill, December 7, 1882, the War Department invited attention to an inclosed report from Lt. Colonel Scott, which pointed out the confusion and controversies to which such legislation would inevitably lead. In his report, Lt. Colonel Scott remarked:

"The experience of this office has demonstrated the utter unreliability of recollections of the war. I have had a Union colonel apply for permission to retract a statement never made in his report of Ball's Bluff. ...Again, A Confederate major-general denied ever having made areport that he saw noted in our catalogue, and on inspection it was found to be in his own handwriting, and he so acknowledged. As another instance I would mention that an attempt to ascertain who commanded a certain Confederate brigade in the Gettysburg campaign has developed two claimants for the post."

The bill was not enacted, and the Department, regarding this as an indorsement of its course, continued its previous policy of excluding post-bellum matter.

COURT-MARTIAL OF FITZ JOHN PORTER

By the act of July 31, 1886, it was directed that---

"The evidence thaken by the court-martial on the trial of Fitz John Porter, and the arguments made before the court by counsel for the prosecution and defense, together with the report thereon by Judge Holt to President Lincoln and any reply thereto, filed with the President before approval of sentence, shall be printed in connection with the matter already printed concerning the proceedings of said court-martial."

, In accordance with this legislation the record of the Fitz John Porter trial was compiled and published as a supplement to Volume XII, Part II, of the Official Records.

As a rule, where the publication records the dismissal of officers for alleged cowardice or other misconduct and the officers were afterwards reinstated, or where it contains grave charges upon which the officers implicated were subsequently tried and acquitted or otherwise vindicated, foot-notes have been entered inviting attention to the supplementary record.

LT. COLONEL SCOTT'S DEATH

Lt. Colonel Scott died March 5, 1887. At his death twenty-five books (Volumes I to XVIII) only had been issued, but he had compiled a large amount of matter for forthcoming volumes; consequently his name as compiler was retained in all the books up to and including Volume XXXVI, although his successors had added largely to his compilation from new material found after his demise. Col. H.M. Lazelle, 23rd U.S. Infantry, was assigned to duty as Scott's successor on May 7, 1887.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION

In 1888 a controversy arose over the insertion in the appendix to Volume XX, Part II, of a list of certain officers and men of the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, which was taken from a clipping from a newspaper, verified in the Department by com-

parison with muster-rolls (The original list, which in 1888 was not known to be in existence, was subsequently found on file in the Department, and is printed in Series I, Volume LII, Part I, pp. 323-327).

After a Congressional investigation the act of March 2, 1889 provided for the creation of the Board of Publication.

That hereafter the preparation and publication of said records shall be conducted under the Secretary of War, by a board of three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Army, to be selected by the Secretary of War, and two civilian experts, to be appointed by the Secretary of War, the compensation for said civilian experts to be fixed by the Secretary of War and to be paid from this appropriation; and the whole work of preparation and publication shall be completed within five years.

Major (later to become Brigadier-General and Judge-Advocate General) George B. Davis, Judge-Advocate, U.S. Army, was appointed military member and president of the board thus authorized, and Leslie J. Perry and Joseph W. Kirkley were appointed as the civilian members, in July, 1889.

The annual appropriations, which up to 1889 ranged from \$50,000 to \$100,000, were for three years raised to \$267,980, but subsequently appropriations were considerably reduced.

On July 1, 1895, Major George B. Davis was relieved from duty on the board, having been assigned to the professorship of law at the U.S. Military Academy, and Major George W. Davis, 11th U.S. Infantry was detailed in his place. The latter served as president of the board until June 1, 1898, when, having been appointed brigadier-general of volunteers and ordered to the field, he was relieved, and Col. (later Brig. General) Fred C. Ainsworth, Chief of the Record and Pension Office, War Department, succeeded him.

SUBSEQUENT CONDUCT OF THE WORK

On September 21, 1898, the following order was issued by the War Department and governed the subsequent conduct of the work until its completion:

"The act approved July 1, 1898 (sundry civil), in the section making appropriation for continuing the publication of the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies, provides that 'no part of this appropriation shall be expended for the compensation of any person not actually and necessarily employed in the said work of preparation, publication, and distribution.' As much of the appropriation for the War Records Office as can be made available for putting the remaining volumes in type will be used for that purpose and no portion of the appropriation will be expended for the compensation of any person whose employment is not absolutely necessary. The officer in charge will be held responsible for the strict enforcement of this requirement, and whenever, in his judgment, the services of any employee becomes unnecessary, he will report the facts in the case to the Secretary of War.

The order of July 17, 1897, limiting the second (Prisoner of War) series to eight volumes, will be adhered to unless further progress in the work shall demonstrate that this cannot be done without the exclusion of matter that is pertinent to the series, is clearly of historical value, and comes within the terms of existing law authorizing and governing the publication of the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies. The following rules will govern the publication of all matter that has not heretofore been published as a part of this series:

(1) No matter will be included except that relative to military prisoners, or prisoners arrested by the military authorities, and except correspondence conducted by the military authorities or agents of exchange concerning the treatment or exchange of prisoners and kindred subjects.

(2) No paper that is not clearly a record of the Union or Confederate Army, and no record kept by, or pertaining to the operations of, any Department other than the War Department will be included.

(3) Nothing that has been printed, or should be printed, in any other series of the publication will be duplicated, provided that the duplication can be avoided with a saving of space, by the use of notes in brackets, or foot-notes, showing where the matter in question can be found.

(4) Nothing relative to any individual will be included, unless he be a very distinguished one, or unless his case is intimately connected with some important subject of general historical interest.

(5) No correspondence relative to a subject that can be fully, clearly, and fairly explained by printing official reports, orders, or statements will be included. This restriction is intended to apply to correspondence that becomes historically valueless by reason of the publication of other documents.

(6) Nothing that is unimportant, or that has little or no historical value, will be included. To publish everything in the files of the Department that has any historical value, however slight, would involve the publication, among other things, of the military histories of every officer and enlisted man who took part in the war, and would fill many hundreds of volumes. It is evident that Congress never intended to give the work any such scope as that, but that it did intend to restrict it to the publication of records that are of general historical value and interest.

(7) No voluminous document that has been printed and distributed by the United States, and can be conveniently described and referred to in a printed note, will be included.

Should any question arise as to the advisability of excluding from the publication, under the operation of the foregoing rules, any class of records or any particular document that may be considered to be historically valuable, the question will be submitted by the officer in charge of the War Records Office to the Secretary of War for decision."

On December 1, 1898, the Board of Publication was dissolved in accordance with a requirement in the appropriation act of July 1, 1898, relating to the War Records Office, and thereafter the publication was conducted under the direction of General Ainsworth until the entire work was finished.

TRIAL DOCUMENTS OF CONFEDERATE PRISON CAMP COMMANDERS

On December 6, 1898, Secretary Alger transmitted to both the Senate and the House of Representatives the following communication:

"The last volumes of the second series of the Records of the Union and Confederate Armies are now in the hands of the printer. This series consists of correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union and Confederate military authorities relative to prisoners of war and to State or political prisoners under military control.....

Among the documents included in this series are reports, correspondence, orders, and other papers relating to Henry Wirz, John H. Gee, and J.W. Duncan, Confederate officers who were tried by military commissions, after the cessation of hostilities, upon charges of cruelty to Union prisoners during the war. The papers selected for publication give a full history of each case, including the documentary evidence used at the trials so far as original and authentic record of that evidence has been found, together with the court-martial orders publishing the charges, specifications, findings, sentences, and action of reviewing authorities. But the daily record of the proceedings of these commissions, including the testimony of witnesses, has not been selected for publication because this matter, which is exceedingly voluminous, has not been thought to have sufficient historical value or to be of sufficient interest at the present time to justify its publication. The record of the most important of these trials, that of Henry Wirz, including a verbatim report of the testimony

that was considered to be most important and a summary of that which was thought to be less so, has already been published in Executive Document No. 23, House of Representatives, Fortieth Congress, second session, so that there seems to be no good reason for republishing it. Gee was acquitted by the commission that tried him, and this disposition of his case deprived it of much of the interest it might otherwise have had. Duncan was acquitted of the charge of murder, but was convicted on minor charges and was sentenced to a term of imprisonment. He is reported to have made his escape after about a year's confinement.

For the reasons indicated above I have not felt justified in directing that the record of the daily proceedings at the trials of Wirz, Gee and Duncan should be published as a part of the Rebellion Records, but as the matter is one concerning which there may be some difference of opinion, it seems to me to be proper that the subject should be submitted to Congress for decision, and I accordingly do so.

If the record of the trials of these men should be published in extenso as a part of the Rebellion Records it will require the publication of three volumes of about 1,000 pages each, and will cost not less than \$25,000. If this publication should be decided upon an appropriation of that amount should be made for the purpose and to prevent a corresponding deficiency, which will otherwise ensue, in the appropriation for the War Records Office for the current fiscal year."

In the Senate the letter was referred, on December 7, to the Committee on Appropriations. In the House, on December 8, it was referred to the Committee on Printing. Neither branch of Congress took any further action in the matter and, consequently, the documents in question were not included in the work.

On July 1, 1899, by operation of law (act of February 24, 1899), the War Records Office was merged into the Record and Pension Office, in charge of General Ainsworth, and became a division of that office, designated the "Publication Branch," in immediate charge of Mr. Kirkley as chief of division.

DISTRIBUTIONS

The printing of the work for distribution was begun under the act approved June 16, 1880, which provided 'for the printing and binding, under direction of the Secretary of War, of 10,000 copies of a compilation of the Official Records, Union and Confederate, of the war of the rebellion, so far as the same may be ready for publication during the fiscal year,' and that 'of said number, 7,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, and 1,000 copies for the use of the Executive Departments.' Under this act the Department proceeded to publish the first five volumes, which, with the exception of the 1,000 copies allotted to the use of the Executive Department and distributed by the Secretary of War, and those sold by the Public Printer, were distributed by the Senators, Representatives and Delegates in the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Congress. All subsequent volumes of the regular edition were distributed by the Secretary of War, to whose charge the distribution was transferred by the Act of August 7, 1882, and subsequent acts of March 10, 1888, January 12, 1895, June 4, 1897, January 26, 1899 and June 6, 1900.

SUMMARY

Voluminous as is the completed publication, comprising 128 books and a copious atlas, it nevertheless fails to convey an adequate conception of the magnitude of the labor involved in its compilation and preparation. The published papers form but a small fraction of the myriads that were rejected as immaterial, of no historical interest, or otherwise not within the scope of the work, but all of which required careful consideration to determine their ineligibility. The papers examined were well-nigh beyond computation, being counted not by documents or boxes, but by tons, roomfuls or the contents of buildings. The volunteer records of discontinued commands (being the books and papers turned in by volunteer officers when mustered out)

filled a large four-story warehouse; the Confederate records alone crowded an entire three-story building; the papers to be examined in the Adjutant-General's Office occupied a third of the old War Department building; military telegrams were almost countless, a single collection of Union dispatches alone containing 2,000,000; all these, as well as the files of the Secretary's office and the various bureaus of the War Department, had to be carefully read and considered, paper by paper, and, if deemed proper for publication, copied and compared. In addition, thousands of individual contributions of original documents of the war period were received from time to time from officers and others throughout the country, either as loans or as donations to the Government; in many instances the collections thus donated or loaned were of formidable dimensions. In all such cases thorough examination and consideration were required to prevent duplication of matter and to establish not only the accuracy of copies but the authenticity of original documents. Missing links had to be traced by exhaustive correspondence and other research to secure completeness of the work as each volume appeared. Thus were the volumes of the "Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies" compiled, printed and published.

SKETCH OF JOHN SEDGWICK

John Sedgwick (Sept. 13, 1813-May 9, 1864), soldier, was born at Cornwall Hollow, Connecticut, the son of Benjamin Sedgwick, farmer and ardent churchman, and Olive (Collins) Sedgwick. The American progenitor of the family was Robert Sedgwick. His grandfather, Major John Sedgwick, was an officer in the American War of the Revolution. John Sedgwick, II, was a manly, robust boy, strong-willed, and a leader among his associates. He received his early education in the common schools of Cornwall, with a few months at an academy at Sharon, Conn., and some special instruction at the parsonage of the Rev. William Andrews. For two winters he taught school. Soon afterward he entered the United States Military Academy and was graduated with the class of 1837. He was commissioned in the artillery, and for a decade saw service in the Seminole War, assisted in moving the Cherokee Indians west of the Mississippi, served on the northern frontier during the Canadian border disturbances, and on various garrison assignments. In 1846 he joined General Taylor's army on the Rio Grande, and saw arduous service until transferred to Scott's army at Vera Cruz, Mexico. He took an active part in all the battles of the Mexican War leading up to the final assault upon the city of Mexico, and for his services at the battles of Churubusco and Chapultepec was brevetted captain and major, respectively. After about eight years of garrison duty, during which he was promoted to the rank of captain, he was honored by appointment as major of the newly organized 1st Regiment of Cavalry. He participated in the Utah Expedition of 1857-58, and in the warfare with the Kiowa and Comanche Indians, 1858-60.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Sedgwick was engaged in constructing the frontier post of Fort Wise, Colorado. Quick promotion to the ranks of lieutenant-colonel, colonel, and brigadier-general of United States volunteers followed, and he received the important assignments of a brigade and a division in the Army of the Potomac. He participated in most of the battles of McClellan's campaign on the Peninsula, including Glendale where he was severely wounded on June 30, 1862. He was promoted Major General of Volunteers on July 4, 1862. He took a prominent part in the battle of Antietam, where he was again wounded, in the battle of Chancellorsville, and in the Rappahannock campaign, during which he commanded the V and VI corps. Soon afterwards he led his corps in the storming of Marye's Heights at Fredericksburg, Va., and in the battle of Salem Hts., on May 3 and 4, 1863. Although not reaching Gettysburg until the second day of the great battle, he entered that contest also and took part in the pursuit of Lee's retiring army. In the subsequent Rapidan campaign he commanded the right wing of the Army of the Potomac with the V and VI Corps, and did brilliant service at the Rappahannock Station in the operations at Mine Run. In the Richmond campaign, still commanding the VI Corps, he was actively engaged in the battle of the Wilderness early in May 1864. A few days later at Spotsylvania, while personally directing the location of artillery, he was shot and killed by a Confederate sharpshooter. A painting of Sedgwick's death, by Julian Scott, hangs in the public library of Plainfield, N.J. He was buried in his native town in Connecticut, where an impressive monument was dedicated to him on May 30, 1892. In 1868, a bronze statue at Gettysburg was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies. Sedgwick never married. Generous and affable, but withal a strict disciplinarian, affectionately known as "Uncle John."