



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

December 4, 1961

2060 Illuminating Building
Cleveland 13, Ohio

"COURTS AND LAW IN THE CONFEDERACY"

Time: 6:30 P.M., December 12, 1961

Place: University Club, 3813 Euclid Avenue

Speaker: George Farr

Our ex-president George Farr will give us the benefit of his research into the subject of jurisprudence in the South during the Civil War. As a practicing attorney and a student of Civil War history, he is exceptionally well qualified to discuss this phase of the period. Excellent reports have been received from other groups before whom he has appeared.

DON'T DELAY

RETURN YOUR CARD

Because of delay in arranging the program this News Letter and the notice of the meeting have not been mailed as far in advance as usual. For this reason it is especially important that the enclosed card be returned at once.

ROBERTSON DRAWS CROWD

The meeting on November 20, addressed by Dr. James Robertson, Jr. of "Civil War History," was marked by one of the largest attendance of members and guests in the history of the Cleveland Round Table. Dr. Robertson's stories of the fraternal relationship of the troops, when not engaged in the grim work of battle, provided an interesting and entertaining evening.

HALLE BROS. HONORED

Halle Bros. Civil War Exhibition, cooperated in by members of the CWRT, especially Ned Downer and the 7th OVI, won a special award from the National Retail Merchants Association and the Reader's Digest.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER

From the Toledo CWRT's CANISTER, November 1961

"We have come to the conclusion, from delving into the 'Official Records,' that the military niceties of the 1860's produced a formal jargon which needs the interpreter's touch. We humbly offer the following as free translations of stock phrases: 'Pursuant to circular orders of the 19th instant, I have the honor to report ...' Brace yourself for bad news. 'The enemy was repulsed with a laughter ...' We saw some of the enemy. 'The enemy was repulsed with heavy slaughter ...' We shot at the ones we saw. 'The enemy was repulsed with great slaughter ...' We think we hit some of the ones we shot at. 'The regiments to my right and left unaccountably gave way ...' My men broke and ran some twenty minutes earlier."

PORTRAIT OF A GENERAL

Charles Francis Adams, Jr., son of the Civil War Minister to the Court of St. James, and grandson of John Quincy Adams, was Colonel of the 5th Massachusetts cavalry. Breveted a Major General USV for war service at Secessionville, South Mountain, and Antietam, he later was President of the Union Pacific and a noted author and historian.

In his Autobiography, published in 1916, he had the following to say about Hooker and the high command of the Army of the Potomac in the winter of '62 - '63: "A showy officer, and one capable of fairly good work in a limited command -- that of a brigade or division -- he was altogether devoid of character; insubordinate and intriguing when at the head of a corps, as a commander, he was in every respect lacking. It is true that after superseding Burnside, he did some effective work toward reorganizing the Army of the Potomac ... It was commanded by a trio, of whom the least said the better. It consisted of 'Joe' Hooker, 'Dan' Sickles and 'Dan' Butterfield. All three were men of blemished character. During the winter (1862-63), when Hooker was in command, I can say from personal knowledge and experience, that the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac was a place to which no self-respecting man liked to go, and no decent woman could go. It was a combination of barroom and brothel."

NOTES FROM OTHER ROUND TABLES

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA has published a mimeographed edition on FLORIDA IN THE CIVIL WAR. Copies may be obtained for \$1 from CWRT, P.O. Box 2397, Pensacola, Florida ... FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA has organized a CWRT ... CHICAGO reports that the state of Illinois has appropriated \$975,000 for acquisition of the Sagamon County Courthouse for restoration as a permanent shrine to Lincoln, Douglas, Grant and others who appeared there ... PHILADELPHIA, at its meeting on November 18, heard an address on MORGANS RAID ... LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY reports that the Paducah SUN DEMOCRATE has published in book form a series of articles by Hall Allen on the Civil War in Western Kentucky. The book can be obtained by sending \$3 to the paper ... SUSQUEHANNA (Lewisburg, Pa.) is sponsoring Junior CWRT's in high schools in its area ... DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA witnessed the Naval Academy's "Historama" at Annapolis during October. The "Historama" is a newly developed electronic portrayal of the war and is said to be the only one of its kind ... TOLEDO, OHIO says "Since we acquired Sam Wang from the Cleveland CWRT, we feel quite a bit in your debt" ... SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA has adopted the CWRT idea. Known as the American Civil War Research Group, its members meet monthly ... SPRINGFIELD, ILL. reports that in spite of the many thousands of deserters, only 121 men paid the death penalty ... SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA goes co-ed. The October letter states that "Ladies henceforth will be invited to all future meetings" ... COSHOCTON, OHIO organized a CWRT and its first meeting was appropriately held on April 12, 1961 ... CINCINNATI in October sponsored, with the University of Cincinnati, a symposium on "The Ohio Valley in The Civil War."

OHIO CENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

The Ohio Centennial Commission announces the following major events for 1962:

- (1) The commemoration of the Great Locomotive Chase, in which 22 Ohio soldiers participated and for which the survivors were given the first Congressional Medals of Honor. The famous locomotive, "The General," will be brought to Ohio during the National Assembly. In April the Commission will take part in observances in Georgia. A committee headed by Eldon H. Brown, Columbus, grandson of the engineer, will seek out descendants of the raiders and invite their participation in the Ohio commemoration.
- (2) The Fifth National Assembly will meet in Columbus May 4 & 5. This will bring to the city members of the Commissions of other states, Civil War scholars and enthusiasts.
- (3) The "Squirrel Hunters" will be commemorated on Sept. 3, a hundred years after those Ohio civilians rallied to the defense of Cincinnati.
- (4) The Commission will collaborate with Tennessee in anniversary observances of the battle of Stones River, Murfreesboro, which was fought December 31, 1861 - January 1 and 2, 1862.

GRIST FOR THE MILLS OF KIBITZ

The CWRT of Kansas City raises the following questions under the heading "SOME 'IF'S' AT THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG (could they have led to a Confederate Victory?)"

"If General Stonewall Jackson had not been killed at Chancellorsville and had been present at the Battle of Gettysburg to lead the Second Corps.

"If General J.E.B. Stuart had not had his pride injured at Brandy Station and therefore had not gone on his wild raid for prestige thus losing contact with General Lee.

"If, as a result of Jackson's death, the Army of Northern Virginia had not been re-organized into three Infantry Corps, two of which were commanded at Gettysburg by untried corps commanders in their first major engagement in that capacity.

"If General Ewell would have seized Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill on the evening of July 1. (The timid Ewell failed where the aggressive Jackson might have succeeded).

"If Generals Longstreet and Ewell had attacked simultaneously on July 2 as Lee had planned. (The giant pincer movement of Lee might have turned the Union flanks and surrounded the entire Union Army).

"If Johnson's Division of Ewell's Corps on the southern sloped of Culp's Hill had not stopped after seizing the empty Union breastworks. (The Confederates suspected a trap and waited until morning of July 3 to press their attack -- less than 1000 yards away was the Baltimore Pike along which were parked all the Union supply and ammunition trains)."

Field Marshal Iffey, Chief of the Imperial War College, Kingdom of Kibitz, was unavailable for comment. A reliable source states that the Field Marshal, who is said to be hunting werewolves in the Forest of Fantasia, is expected to submit the matters for consideration at the forthcoming conclave of the War College.

OHIO PUBLICATIONS

(From the Centennial Commission's Bulletin for December 1961)

An indication of the persistent interest in Civil War history is implied in a summary of the distribution of the Commission's booklets and pamphlets as of November 1, 1961.

Four booklets have been published for the Commission by the Ohio Historical Society, sales outlet for the Commission. Of these, the "Ohio Handbook of the Civil War" has sold 3,919 copies; "Ohio Press in the Civil War." 1,840 copies; "Ohio Troops in the Field," 1,789 copies; and (just off the press) "Ohio Politics on the Eve of Conflict," 231 copies.