

THE CHARGER



The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable

January 2025

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SPEAKERS– William Vodrey is the moderator for the evening. The debaters include Jonathon Cullens talking with Robert E. Lee, Emily Dickinson with U.S. Grant, Terry McHale talks with Thomas Francis Meagher, Paul Siedel has chosen Patrick Cleburne, and John Syrone hosts Dan Sickles.

LOCATION: The Holiday Inn Independence at 6001 Rockside Road, Independence, Ohio 44131, off US Interstate 77

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

For reservations email:

ccwrtreserve@gmail.com. To ensure a dinner is reserved for you, the reservation must be made by Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Website:

<http://www.clevelandcivilwarroundtable.com>

MEETING – January 8, 2025

PROGRAM – “**Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate: The Table is Set, So Who are You Bringing Along?**”

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President's Message

Fellow Roundtable Members:

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! As we close the door on the Holiday Season and begin this exciting new chapter, I am reminded of the traditions that make this time of year so special. Whether you are packing away the last of the seasonal decorations or advocating for leaving them up just a little longer, there is something heartwarming about holding onto the spirit of the season. Of course, indulging in festive treats and enjoying time with family and friends is another beloved tradition, one that I hope you have enjoyed thoroughly.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who joined us for the December meeting, which was a fantastic way to kick off the holidays. We gathered around our "fireplace", enjoyed Christmas Classics by the Rat Pack, feasted on a delicious Prime Rib Dinner, and had a blast with our Ugly Christmas Sweater/Holiday Tie Contest. The contest was a true highlight, with many participants showing off their creative and festive attire, each with a fun and unique story behind their sweaters and ties. A big congratulations to our winners, Steve Pettyjohn and Glen Reisner, who truly captured the "Holiday Cheer" with their bold and entertaining choices! It was a joy to see such enthusiasm and creativity, adding an extra layer of fun to our celebration.

In full Civil War-era attire, Barbara Toncheff delivered a captivating presentation, immersing us in the world of courageous women who played vital roles during the Civil War. While many women supported soldiers through domestic tasks,

others used their intelligence and charm to deceive the enemy, gathering critical information and supplies. Barbara's talk highlighted the daring actions of female spies from both the Union and the Confederacy—women who risked imprisonment or death if caught. Through engaging first-person storytelling, period props, photos, and news clippings, Barbara brought their bold exploits to life. She emphasized how the underappreciated role of women in espionage shaped the outcome of the war. "I have never been caught," she said, channeling her alter ego, Belle Montgomery, and added, "Imagine how many more of us brave gals like me were out there that were never caught either, that you never knew about, and how much they actually affected the outcome of the war?"

Barbara shared how women concealed vital information in their hair, boots, and even dentures, taking advantage of societal norms that made it less likely for them to be thoroughly searched. Many also smuggled critical supplies, such as quinine and morphine, by posing as workers, invalids, or the elderly. Some used their charm to extract information from men, even entering multiple marriages to gain valuable insights. Barbara also shared the personal stories of Bertha Ochs, a Confederate spy whose son would later become the publisher of *The New York Times*, and the romance between Confederate spy Antonia Ford and Union Major Joseph Willard. She recounted the daring tale of Susan Archer Talley, caught smuggling percussion caps hidden in a coffin. Barbara's engaging presentation left attendees with a deeper appreciation for the often-overlooked contributions of women to Civil War espionage.

This month marks a significant milestone for our Roundtable—January celebrates the 68th Anniversary of the first meeting of the

Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. To commemorate this occasion, we will hold the Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate, one of our most anticipated events, expertly moderated once again by Judge William Vodrey. This year's topic is "The Table Is Set, So Who Are You Bringing Along?" As many of you know, the Civil War was full of remarkable personalities. In this year's debate, each participant will argue who would be the most interesting person to sit down with, whether over dinner or a drink. They will present a five-minute case, and the audience will vote for the "best Civil War guest."

Our debaters and their positions are as follows:

- Emily Dickinson: U.S. Grant – Discussing how his Mexican War experience influenced his Civil War strategies (over London Fogs).
- John Syrone: Dan Sickles – Asking why Sickles advanced the Third Corps at Gettysburg (over Scotch).
- Jonathan Collens: Robert E. Lee – Exploring what Lee might have done differently and his possible regrets (over Buttermilk).
- Paul Siedel: Patrick Cleburne – Debating Cleburne's proposal to allow slaves to fight for freedom (over Irish Whiskey, neat).
- Terry McHale: Thomas Francis Meagher – Discussing Meagher's expectations for Irish veterans to expel the British (over 69th N.Y. Regimental Cocktails).

In addition to the debate, this month's social hour will feature a special slideshow history of the debate, which was started by Past-President Bob Pence. This year (2025) marks the 29th scheduled "Great Debate". The first debate took place in January 1995,

during Norty London's presidency, and has been held annually since, except for two years. This event also marks William Vodrey's twenty-first year as our esteemed moderator—a remarkable milestone!

I am excited to see all of you at the January meeting for what promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking evening. Come out and join us for an important Roundtable tradition! I look forward to another year of learning, sharing, and growing together in our appreciation for Civil War history.

Wishing you all a fantastic start to 2025!

Your obedient servant,

Gene Claridge

The Editor's Desk



SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS! That is quite an accomplishment for the CCWRT. The first Civil War Roundtable in the United States was established in Chicago, Illinois, in 1941. By 1949, two more Roundtables had been

established in Milwaukee (1947) and Atlanta (1949). These early organizations, just as those that exist today, were independent of each other but followed a similar pattern of meeting on a regular basis to have a dinner, listen to members and well-known Civil War historians talk about various topics, and hold discussions about the history of the American Civil War.

When the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable was established, there were hundreds of such organizations being formed throughout the United States in the 1950s and early 1960s, encouraged, no doubt, by events and publications surrounding the Centennial of the war from 1961 to 1965. Just like other roundtables, the CCWRT has always emphasized comradeship, scholarship, education about the Civil War era, and bringing to the meetings some of the best Civil War researchers and writers in the country.

In our “Charger” files is a fascinating list of past programs at CCWRT meetings from the first meeting, January 8, 1957, through 1987. The CCWRT was founded by John W. Cullen and Kenneth S. Grant in 1956. Grant was the first president for the 1957-1958 year, but he died in April, 1957. George Farr, Jr., then continued as president for our first year. Farr presented the first program, “Civil Law in Southern Courts,” at that first meeting 68 years ago on January 8. Since that time, a virtual “who’s who” of Civil War historians have made presentations at CCWRT meetings.

Bruce Catton gave the talk at the third meeting on March 21, 1957. Mr. Catton spoke on “Civil War Influence on Social and Political Outlook.” Other noted speakers

over the years included U.S. Grant III, Dr. Bell I. Wiley, E.B. “Pete” Long, James I. Robertson, Edwin C. Bearss, Glenn Tucker, General Edward Stackpole, General S.H.A. Marshall, Stephen Z. Starr, Dr. Stephen Ambrose, Dr. William J. Ulrich, Mark E. Neely, Jr., etc.

In addition, CCWRT took its first field trip to Antietam, Haper’s Ferry, and Winchester in September 1957. The origins of the annual debate can be found in April 1960, when a panel of our members discussed the “Best and Worst Union Generals.” Panel members that year included Thomas Knickerbocker, Lester Swift, George Farr, Don Hamill, Bill Rothe, and Lawrence Sagle. By 1987, the CCWRT celebrated thirty years and 262 programs—AND THE LIST GOES ON!

In an earlier “Editor’s Desk” last year, I believe, I wrote about the importance of preserving and passing on institutional memory. As we celebrate 68 years for the CCWRT, let’s pledge to do all we can to keep our organizational history alive. By the way, your humble editor also turns 68 years old in January. COINCIDENCE? I don’t think so. . . .

Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate, Jan. 8, 2025

Our topic this year was selected by CWRT President Gene Claridge. It is, “The Table is Set, So Who Are You Bringing Along?” Our order of debate will be determined by random draw that evening. Our debaters and their particulars:

* Jonathan Collens has chosen Robert E. Lee. He will discuss with Lee, over buttermilk, what the general might have done differently during the Civil War, and if Lee had any regrets.

* Emily Dickinson has chosen U.S. Grant. She will discuss with him, over London Fogs, how his Mexican War experience shaped his military plans during the Civil War.

* Terry McHale has chosen Thomas Francis Meagher. He will discuss with Meagher, over 69th N.Y. Regimental Cocktails, the general's expectations for his veterans eventually helping him expel the British from Ireland.

* Paul Siedel has chosen Patrick Cleburne. He will discuss with the general, over Irish whiskey, neat, Cleburne's proposal to let slaves serve in the Confederate Army and thus win their freedom.

* John Syrone has chosen Dan Sickles. He will ask Sickles, over scotch, why the

general chose to move the Third Corps forward from Cemetery Ridge to the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg.

Debaters may speculate as to how their selected generals might have replied. Each will have five minutes to speak, and then take questions from the audience for up to another five minutes. They will then participate in a general discussion/rebuttal session ("the scrum"), after which the audience will be asked to vote on which presentation they found most compelling. The winner will, of course, receive fabulous prizes!

William Vodrey will again be our moderator.

DON'T FORGET—THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE FABULOUS PRIZES!



New Years Day, 1863—Battle of Stones River

COME RETRIBUTION REVISITED

By

John C. Fazio

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *Before he died, Mr. Fazio sent us several articles he wanted to share with his fellow members in the CCWRT. Accordingly, in line with his wishes and as a tribute to him, we have published several of these manuscripts. To say the very least, Mr. Fazio was a scholar and careful historian. He became an expert on the Lincoln assassination and published at least two books on the subject: Decapitating the Union—Jefferson Davis, Judah Benjamin and the Plot to Assassinate Lincoln (Morris Gilbert Publishing Co., 2015) and The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln—Four Smoking Guns (Penn and Sword Books, Ltd., 2023). This article is a fine example of his scholarship.*]

About 30 years ago, Lincoln assassination historians William A. Tidwell (who spent the greater part of his adult life in government intelligence), James O. Hall (said to be the grandfather of assassination historians), and David Winfred Gaddy (who also spent much of his adult life in government service), blew the lid off the simple conspiracy theory of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln with their seminal work, *Come Retribution: The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln*.¹ Simply stated the simple conspiracy theory holds that the assassination of Lincoln and the attempted assassination of Secretary of State William Seward were carried out by John Wilkes Booth and his immediate action team, aka his band of misfits (Sam Arnold, George Atzerodt, David Herold, Dr. Samuel Mudd, Michael O'Laughlen, Lewis Powell, Edmund Spangler and Mary Surratt, and maybe John Surratt, Jr., and maybe not Dr. Mudd and Mrs. Surratt), without help from anyone else. That is to say that the theory, which has and has had the support of many assassination historians (e.g. George S. Bryan, David Miller DeWitt, Michael W. Kauffman and Clara M. Laughlin) and which has persisted into our own time, especially in the popular imagination, excludes all the other conspiracy theories that sprang up and matured after the assassination, including those that postulated the complicity of Vice President Andrew Johnson, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, international bankers, the Roman Catholic Church, disaffected Northerners (i.e. Copperheads, Radical Republicans and secret societies), the head of the National Detective Police, Lafayette Baker, and the Confederate government or any agency thereof.

After the dust and debris settled from the *Come Retribution* explosion, Tidwell followed with a solo, *April '65*,² in 1995, in which he supported and added to the conclusions that he and his co-authors had come to seven years earlier.

Since then, many assassination historians, scholars, writers and researchers have been persuaded that, in fact, Tidwell, Hall and Gaddy got it right; that the simple conspiracy theory is almost certainly wrong, because it is against the great weight of the evidence. The theory took root after the case against Confederate President Jefferson Davis and some operatives in the Confederate

Secret Service, who were prosecuted as unindicted co-conspirators in the trial of the Lincoln conspirators, in May and June, 1865, collapsed. It collapsed when it became apparent that key government witnesses (i.e. Richard Montgomery, Charles Dunham (alias Sanford Conover) and James B. Merritt), who had implicated Davis and other Confederate leaders, had, at least in part, perjured themselves.

Among the experts in the field who have accepted the Tidwell, Hall and Gaddy thesis are William F. Hanchett, Richard N. Current, Stephen W. Sears and H. Donald Winkler. Hanchett wrote that *Come Retribution* "...is based upon far more substantial and imaginative research than any previous work on the assassination".³ He also wrote that "*April '65*...powerfully supplemented *Come Retribution*".⁴ Current, in reviewing *Come Retribution*, added that the authors' conclusion is made "with justification".⁵ Sears, in his review of *Come Retribution*, wrote that "it is hard to put this book down without acknowledging that this is the way it must have happened".⁶ And Winkler, in his review, joined Hanchett, Current and Sears, as well as Tidwell, Hall and Gaddy, when he wrote that:

Sanders went on to expose Dunham/Conover, Merritt and Montgomery as liars, thereby discrediting the efforts of Stanton, Holt and Johnson to blame the Confederacy for the assassination...Sanders' propaganda effort paid off. By exposing the chief Union witnesses as liars, the government's case collapsed, even though credible witnesses had indeed submitted untainted affidavits implicating the Southern President and the Confederates in Canada...Since Dunham/Conover, Merritt and Montgomery were all disgraced as witnesses, Finnegan's testimony and that of other reliable witnesses was not taken seriously. The credibility of all the government witnesses was marred by the fabrications of the three...For his (Davis's) freedom, he owed a tremendous thank-you to the covert operations of George N. Sanders and Charles Dunham...Thanks to the work of these two men Clement C. Clay was also released from prison (in April 1866) and returned to his home in Alabama.⁷

Further, support for the conclusions of these historians was foreshadowed by the Report of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives (the Boutwell Report). Making use of only testimony of witnesses against whom no imputation of perjury was made, the report concluded that there was "probable cause" to believe that (Jefferson Davis) was privy to the measures which led to the commission of the deed (assassination).⁸

Despite the trend in recent years toward the acceptance of at least some degree of Confederate government and Secret Service involvement in the events of April 14, 1865, there are still naysayers, i.e. those who do not accept the thesis at all. Reasons vary. Some simply say there isn't enough evidence to justify such a conclusion. Some simply find the thesis repugnant; they cannot reconcile it with the esteem in which they hold many Confederate leaders, especially Davis, and therefore contend that he and those closest to him would have had nothing to do with low-lives such as Booth and his immediate action team. Some hold that assassination was simply

beyond the pale for these leaders--all highly educated aristocrats--, not something they would dirty their hands and their reputations with. Some, such as John Paul Jones, Professor Emeritus at the Richmond School of Law, hold that Confederate leaders would not shy from assassination, especially by April, 1865, when there was virtually nothing left to them, but that they didn't have the men and the means to carry it off, that multiple assassinations were simply beyond their capabilities.⁹ And some are simply unfamiliar with the many facts that tie Booth and his team to the Confederate leadership, which we will come to.

Another doubter is Robert G. Wick, an independent scholar who has spoken and written extensively on the war, on Lincoln and on historiography. He wrote a splendid article on Lafayette S. Foster, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate at the time of Lincoln's assassination, who, by the terms of the Presidential Succession Statute of 1792, would become acting President in the event of a simultaneous vacancy in the offices of president and vice president, until such time as the Electoral College would elect a new president.¹⁰

I was doing alright with the article until I came to the part where he expresses his reservations about a conspiracy involving the Confederate leadership (pp. 12,13).

He acknowledges the unlikelihood that a paper trail would be left by the organizers of such a conspiracy, but nevertheless argues that "...absence of evidence in this case generally does indicate an evidence of absence". It seems to me that reasonable minds can differ as to the meaning of this sentence, which seems intended to carry more weight than it actually does. Why "this case" should be any different than any other case of a like kind is left unsaid, and the qualifier "generally" opens the door to a lot of different possibilities. In any case, Mr. Wick concludes that "...without more evidence forthcoming, Tidwell, Hall and Gaddy's theory of a larger Confederate conspiracy remains just that".

Mr. Wick appears to base his doubts on the fact that "...little in the way of physical evidence has ever been offered to show definitive proof", i.e. of the complicity of the Confederate leadership. To begin with, "definitive proof" is a high bar; few things in history, that need to be proved definitively, can be. "Clear and convincing evidence" and "proof beyond a reasonable doubt" are more reasonable bars. Secondly, what does the author have in mind when he speaks of "physical evidence"? I must assume that despite his acknowledgement of the unlikelihood that a paper trail would be left by the organizers of such a conspiracy, he has in mind a writing or writings wherein Jefferson Davis, or Secretary of State Judah Benjamin, or the head of the Confederate Secret Service in Canada (known as "the Canadian Cabinet"), Jacob Thompson, orders John Wilkes Booth to assassinate Lincoln, or a writing in which one of these leaders, or perhaps another leader (Vice President Alexander Stevens or Secretary of War James Seddon?), orders Lewis Powell to assassinate Secretary of State William Seward, or other writings wherein some leader orders some underling to assassinate someone. If this is, in fact, what Mr. Wick has in mind, then, in my judgment, his expectation is wholly unreasonable, because it is a certainty that such writings will never be found, because they never existed. Surely Mr. Wick must know, or at least surmise, that orders of such a sensitive and odious nature would never be committed to paper, even in code, because if they ever saw the light of day they would irreparably damage not only their authors, but indeed the entire *raison d'être* of the separation of eleven states from the

United States, that is to say, the entire cause of the Confederacy. Thus it was that when James P. Holcombe was sent to Canada in February, 1864, by Davis, he was sent to carry out “duties already entrusted”, but not specified in writing. Similarly, when Davis sent Clement C. Clay and Jacob Thompson to Canada in April, 1864, he sent them with “such instructions as you have received from me verbally, in such manner as shall seem most likely to conduce the furtherance of the interests of the Confederate States of America”. And similarly, orders to Captain Thomas Henry Hines, the principal player in the Northwest Conspiracy to capture political control of the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois in 1864, were also given only verbally. It does not require a particularly vivid imagination to know why the instructions and orders to these men, and doubtless to many other Confederate Secret Service operatives, were given only verbally, in person or by courier, namely because they were odious in the extreme, the kinds of instructions and orders that called for political assassinations and the death of innocents on a massive scale. Based on subsequent and well known events, we now know that, in fact, they did just that.

Or perhaps he has in mind testimony from one of the parties to verbal orders. Most unlikely. Those who gave such orders were certainly insulated from responsibility for them by intermediaries, as are all those in whom ultimate power and authority repose, and further, would certainly never implicate themselves in multiple assassinations, including regicide. As for those who received and carried out such orders, they were, in many cases, after the trial and in the years and decades that followed, out of the country or dead and, in any case, cannot be expected to have implicated themselves, or those who gave them orders, in crimes for which either or both of them would hang or be incarcerated for lengthy terms, quite possibly for the rest of their lives.

Or perhaps he has in mind testimony from one who was not a party to verbal orders, but who was privy to them, i.e. a whistle-blower. Again, most unlikely. Such orders were extremely sensitive and would therefore almost certainly not be shared with anyone, or at most a very privileged few who could be counted on to keep their mouths shut. Thus it was that so many in the Confederate government (e.g. John C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War after James Seddon retired) and military (e.g. General Joseph E. Johnston) expressed surprise, shock, dismay, regret and even grief when they heard of the assassination. They simply weren’t privy to what was going on behind the scenes.

So, if we accept the nonexistence of writings in which orders were given by Confederate leaders to assassins or would-be assassins to murder federal leaders, and if we accept the near certainty that parties to orders to kill are most unlikely to confess to, or to implicate others in, such crimes, and that there were very few, if any, who were privy to such orders, apart from the givers and the recipients thereof, then it is fair to ask: What evidence do we have to implicate the Confederate leadership in the events of April 14, 1865? And the answer to the question is: actually, quite a lot. But before I enumerate the items of evidence, let me caution the reader to avoid the common mistake of denigrating circumstantial evidence. There is absolutely nothing wrong with circumstantial evidence. People are convicted on the basis of such evidence every day. Indeed, it is so strong and pervasive that many, I dare say most, prosecutors prefer to have it than to have eyewitness or material evidence, both of which are more easily impeached.

That said, the evidence that favors the implication of the Confederate government and its Secret Service Bureau in the events of April 14, 1865, includes the following:

1. Jefferson Davis is known to have said, in 1862, that if it were necessary, he (or we) had friends enough in the North to destroy the president and every head of the departments.¹¹
2. On April 3, 1865, Secretary of State William Seward said to Attorney General James Speed that “If there were to be assassinations, now is the time”. Seward was privy to all Union intelligence.¹²
3. There were at least a dozen attempts on Lincoln’s life both before and after the Wistar and Dahlgren-Kilpatrick Raids on Richmond in February and March, 1864. Is it reasonable to suppose that all were rogue operations? Or is it more reasonable to believe that some, perhaps most, maybe even all, were carried out with the knowledge, and therefore the approval, of the Confederate leadership?¹³
4. Based on events that followed the raids on Richmond, it is safe to conclude that the Confederate leadership saw in them, especially the orders to the leaders of the raids to either capture (Wistar’s orders) or assassinate (Dahlgren’s orders) Davis and his cabinet, license to respond in kind. Thus it was that a series of high-level meetings, in which both the political and military leadership of the Confederacy participated, were held in Richmond, shortly after the raids, to discuss appropriate counter-measures to the raids.¹⁴
5. Dr. Luke P. Blackburn, a member of the Canadian Cabinet, attempted, in the summer of 1864, to assassinate Lincoln by sending him shirts “infected” with yellow fever. This was a part of the Secret Service’s yellow fever plot to spread pestilence in the North, which plot was known to Davis, Benjamin and Davis’s three appointees to the Canadian Cabinet, Holcombe, Clay and Thompson. Davis’s, and therefore Benjamin’s, knowledge of the plot receives corroboration from a letter to Davis, which survived the flames, from Kensey John’s Stewart, an Episcopalian Minister turned Confederate agent and a member of the Canadian Cabinet, in which Stewart pleaded with Davis to desist from the plot on the grounds that it could not possibly find favor with God. Holcombe, Clay, Thompson and Blackburn met several times with and counseled one Joseph Godfrey Hyams, in Canada, with respect to the plot and the planned assassination.¹⁵ (Stewart’s letter expressly mentions Hyams.) This attempted assassination and the Confederate leaders’ knowledge of it must be regarded as a smoking gun, or as close to one as we are ever likely to get, unless we are prepared to believe that the Confederate leadership was ready and willing, if not quite able, to assassinate Lincoln in the summer of 1864, but then changed its collective mind by the spring of 1865 despite the fact that the Southern press was then fairly baying for the blood of federal leaders.
6. There is persuasive evidence that Confederate leaders signed off on the assassinations of Governors John Brough of Ohio, Oliver P. Morton of Indiana and Richard Yates of Illinois (as well as any and all federal, state and even municipal officials who stood in the

way of gaining complete political control of those three states), as part of the Northwest Conspiracy of 1864, which was led by Captain Thomas Henry Hines, whose work was directly supervised by Secretary of War Seddon.¹⁶ If the Confederate leaders signed off on these assassinations, i.e. assassinations of men whose contribution to their losses was relatively meager and at a time when the Confederacy was still in the game, albeit not by much, and its resources not yet depleted, though not sufficient, why would they not sign off on the assassinations of men whose contribution to their losses was major and when their backs were to the wall and their resources all but exhausted?

7. In conversations between Confederate Secret Service operatives in Canada, as testified to in the trial of the Lincoln conspirators, there are dozens of references to assassination, not only of Lincoln, but also of six other federal officeholders and of Lincoln's entire cabinet, but only one reference to abduction.
8. The Confederate government was at all times aware of Booth and his action team and their activities and did nothing to stop him. The evidence for this is overwhelming. Booth's right hand was John Surratt, Jr., who was Judah Benjamin's most trusted courier, meeting with him almost weekly.¹⁷ In addition, Booth was known to be very close to Confederate agent Thomas Harbin, meeting with him both before and after the assassination. Harbin later spoke of his experiences as a Confederate Secret Service agent, when it was safe to do so, and among other things said that he reported directly to Davis.¹⁸ Further, Booth had rubbed elbows with numerous Confederate Secret Service agents at various times and in various places, including his meetings in New Orleans with Confederate operatives George Miller and Hiram Martin (probably aliases) in March and April, 1864, , his meeting with four Confederate agents at the Parker House in Boston in July, 1864, his numerous trips to meet with members of the Canadian Cabinet, including March, 1864 (Montreal), April, 1864 (Toronto for 10 to 12 days) and 10 days in October, 1864 (Montreal), and his meetings in New York with "the New York crowd" and with August Belmont and his circle of Copperheads in November, 1864. Further, Confederate agent Surratt and Mosby Ranger Lewis Powell, both of whom joined Booth's conspiracy, could not possibly have done so without the knowledge and approval of Richmond. Further, a cipher square found in Booth's hotel room after the assassination just happened to be identical to one found in the office of Judah Benjamin after Richmond fell. Further, there is the testimony of Samuel Knapp Chester, Booth's actor friend from New York, whom he tried to recruit in his conspiracy, who said that his inference from the tenor of his conversation with Booth in New York in early April, 1865, was that Booth's scheme had the knowledge and cooperation of "insurgent leaders". Consistent with this, he said that Booth had told him that he was low on funds and that he or someone else had to go to Richmond to get more, a statement that coincides exactly with conspirator Samuel Arnold's statement in a letter that was found in Booth's hotel room after the assassination, that Booth should desist from further activity and "go and see how it will be taken at Richmond." Still further, there is a letter that came into the possession of the

Bureau of Military Justice after the assassination, dated May 10, 1865, from a Union agent in Paris, who referred to a note that he had intercepted from a Confederate agent, identified as “Johnston” (probably an alias), in which “Johnston” wrote that “Booth ...will never be taken. He will bullet himself first”, thus evidencing intimate knowledge of Booth by the Confederate underground and also Booth’s likely commitment to something more lethal than kidnapping, something that he would be willing to exchange his life for. More is said about this letter in paragraph 17. below. Still further, Thomas A. Jones, who said he was the chief agent of the Confederate Secret Service in Maryland, acknowledged, in 1893, that he knew all about Booth’s “kidnapping scheme”. Indeed, Confederate leaders did not deny that they had known “of the proposed kidnapping”. Davis’s knowledge of Booth and his action team and what they were doing and not doing is therefore certain.¹⁹

9. Kidnapping of Lincoln as an objective of Booth and his action team is a myth. Samuel Arnold, in his Memoirs, confirmed that it was a myth.²⁰ Judge Advocate General John Bingham and Military Commissioner Thomas M. Harris both concluded, after listening to the testimony of hundreds of witnesses at the trial of the conspirators, that it was a myth, that Booth’s objective had always been assassinations.²¹
10. Thomas F. Harney led a mission to Washington from Richmond in early April, 1865. The purpose of the mission was to assassinate Lincoln and as many other federal officeholders as could be lured into a wing of the White House prior to blowing it up, making use of an “entertainment” or “serenade” for the purpose. Harney was aided at every step of the way by trainmen, post commanders, guides, other agents and John Mosby himself, between Richmond, which he left on April 1, and his capture on April 9 or 10 at Burke’s Station, near Washington. Could such a mission, with so much help along the way, have been attempted without the knowledge and approval of the Confederate leadership? No.²²
11. We know with certainty that an attempt on the life of Secretary of State William Seward was also made on April 14. We know with near certainty that attempts were also made on the same night on the lives of Vice President Andrew Johnson²³, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton²⁴ and Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant²⁵. A .38 caliber Whitney revolver that, incredibly, misfired when Lewis Powell put it to the head of Frederick Seward, the Secretary’s son, and neck and back plates on Seward that were there because of a recent carriage accident, saved the Secretary. We’re not sure what saved Johnson—probably security about the door to his suite or perhaps he was sleeping or otherwise engaged in his suite and therefore unresponsive to door knocking, which is what Leonard Farwell found when he made a beeline from Ford’s Theatre to the Kirkwood House, where

Johnson was staying, to apprise Johnson of what had happened at Ford's and to protect him. (Farwell was a former Governor of Wisconsin who just happened to be at Ford's that night.) A broken doorbell appears to have saved Stanton and an alert brakeman and a locked car door appear to have saved Grant.

12. There is evidence that Mosby Rangers were in and around Ford's Theatre on the night of April 14.²⁶
13. There is evidence of treason in the crossing of the Navy Yard Bridge by Booth and his co-conspirator David Herold.²⁷
14. Booth and Herold were given much help by members of the "mail line" in Maryland and Virginia after the assassination. Such help suggests foreknowledge of the crime and arrangement to facilitate the fugitives' escape.²⁸
15. Lewis Powell said to Thomas T. Eckert, the Assistant Secretary of War, that government prosecutors did "not have the one-half of them" (i.e. conspirators) and that it was his impression that arrangements had been made with others for the same disposition of other federal officeholders as he was to make of Seward.²⁹ With respect to the first statement, the government had nine conspirators, or alleged conspirators, including the dead Booth. That would mean there were no fewer than 18 involved in the conspiracy. But Herold said that Booth had told him there were 35 involved.³⁰ And Booth's actor friend from New York, Samuel Knapp Chester, said that Booth had told him there were between 50 and 100 involved.³¹ Can even a number between 18 and 35 have been necessary to assassinate one man? No. And could a conspiracy involving such a number have been carried out in Washington, a city saturated with Confederate agents, without the knowledge and therefore the approval of the Confederate leadership? No. With respect to the second statement, can we read in it anything less than a well-laid plan to decapitate the United States government, or, if not a well-laid plan, at least a plan. No.
16. After the assassination, the Bureau of Military Justice came into the possession of a letter dated April 10, 1865, and addressed to Booth at the National Hotel in Washington. The letter was signed "T.I.O.S." and stated, *inter alia*, that "If the four are assassinated our wrongs are avenged" and that "there is one man to everyone in the Cabinet".³²
17. In the letter dated May 10, 1865, referred to in paragraph 8. above, the Confederate agent "Johnston" said that he had followed Grant for two days, which is indicative of the scope of the conspiracy. "Johnston" also said that he arrived in Washington on April 14 at 5:00 pm and that within half an hour knew that an "attack" would be made that night and that

“had it been carried out as was arranged previously, some 15 of the Yankee leaders would have been now quietly resting where they should have gone some 4 years (ago)”.³³ The authenticity of this letter, of the “T.I.O.S.” letter, and, for that matter, of all of the letters that came into the possession of the Bureau, has never been successfully challenged.

18. In his May 1 confession, George Atzerodt said that Booth had told him that “the New York crowd” had plans to “get the president certain” and “get him quick” and that if he didn’t get the president quickly, the New York crowd would. Does anyone suppose that the “New York crowd” was a rogue operation? Or is it more likely that it was under the control of Richmond? And if “the New York crowd” was under the control of Richmond, is it reasonable to suppose that Booth and his team were not? No. Does anyone suppose that these statements referred to kidnapping? Atzerodt also referred to the Harney plot of blowing up part of the White House, though he did not mention Harney by name.³⁴
19. All the letters that came into the possession of the Bureau of Military Justice after the assassination, which relate to Confederate Secret Service work, speak only of assassination; none speaks of kidnapping.
20. Major Confederate leaders who were most likely complicit in the events of April 14, including Judah Benjamin, Jacob Thompson, George Sanders, John Surratt, Benjamin Franklin Stringfellow and Thomas Harbin, all fled the country after the assassination, Stringfellow for two years, Thompson for three or four years, Harbin for five years, Sanders for seven years and Benjamin never to return. Surratt was brought back from Egypt in chains 19 months after fleeing.
21. Henri Beaumont de Ste. Marie, who was with John Surratt in Italy (they were both Papal Zouaves), swore in an Affidavit he prepared in 1866, addressed to Secretary of State Seward, that Surratt admitted to him that he and Booth had killed Lincoln, but that when he was asked if Davis was complicit in the assassination, answered “I am not going to tell you”.³⁵ That response, of course, is as good as an affirmative answer, because it means that Surratt knew (and as Judah Benjamin’s most trusted courier who admitted to killing Lincoln, why wouldn’t he know the breadth of the conspiracy?), otherwise he would have said, simply, “I don’t know”, and that Davis *was* complicit, otherwise he would have said, simply, “No. Davis had nothing to do with it; he was completely innocent”, or words of similar import. Surratt’s answer---“I am not going to tell you”, in response to the question “Was Davis involved in the assassination”, therefore, fits only with Davis’s complicity and Surratt’s knowledge of it and for that reason must be regarded as another smoking gun, or as close to one as we are ever likely to get.
22. There is a statement from one Susannah Hamm of Richmond that was made to the Bureau of Military Justice after the assassination. She said, *inter alia*, that “The plan of

inviting Mr. Lincoln to the theater was fixed upon in Richmond”.³⁶ There are many reasons, too many to enumerate here, why Ms. Hamm’s statement is entitled to great weight; it is perfectly consistent with other items of evidence we have that demonstrate the complicity of the Confederate leadership in the events of April 14.

23. A displaced Michigander in wartime Richmond (Charles Cowlam, by name) wrote that he heard a lot of talk there about plots to assassinate federal leaders and that the Richmond newspapers encouraged such plots. He wrote, further, that the assassination of Lincoln and his cabinet was much talked about in Richmond as a probability and that by August of 1864 the city was caught in what he described as an “assassination frenzy”.³⁷ If it was a frenzy in August, 1864, could it have been anything less than white hot by the spring of 1865, and could the Confederate leadership have been immune to white hot public opinion and the encouragement, if not the demands, of the Southern press?
24. By April, 1865, the Confederacy was almost finished. There was virtually nothing left to its leaders but multiple assassinations and the presidential succession statute of 1792, which was then in effect and which, even if it would not have accomplished everything the Confederate leadership wanted to accomplish, would have created crippling chaos in the federal government if major figures in that government could be eliminated. The statute provided that in the event of a simultaneous vacancy in the offices of President and Vice President, the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate would act as an interim President until such time as the Electoral College elected a new President, a process to be put in motion by the Secretary of State. With that officer also dead, the confusion could reasonably be expected to provide an opening for the Confederacy to snatch independence from the jaws of a toothless and chaotic government.
25. Lastly, consider this statement by William A. Tidwell, which appears in *April '65*:

What has been established, however, is a network of documented facts that logically coincide with the information that would have had to exist if Davis did decide to attack the leaders of the Federal government. One can refute the logic only by a bizarre distortion of reason. The probability that all of these facts were true and that Davis did not make the critical decision is very slight indeed.³⁸

Now, having said all of that, the next question is: At what point does a theory cease to be a theory and become a fact? Frankly, I don’t know. I suspect that every case is in some degree different. There are, after, all, Holocaust deniers and those who reject evolution and climate change, despite the fact that the Holocaust is absolutely and totally beyond any doubt whatsoever and evolution and climate change affirmed by more than 99% of experts in the respective fields (paleontologists, biologists and climate scientists). So let me say this to those who still doubt that the Confederate government and its Secret Service Bureau were in any way complicit in the events of April 14, 1865, in Washington, and who believe that such doubt constitutes sufficient

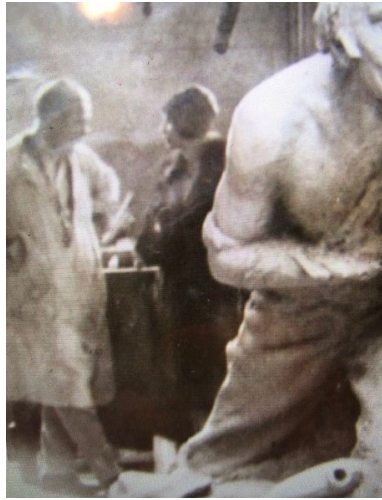
justification to deny that complicity is an established fact and to continue to relegate it to the inferior status of theory: In my judgment, the totality of the evidence adduced and enumerated above constitutes at least a prima-facie case of complicity, which means that the burden of proof shifts from the proponents of complicity to the opponents. Those who continue to maintain non-complicity are now charged with the task of trying to prove it. Accordingly, I ask that all such persons present their evidence. I do not even ask for clear and convincing evidence, proof beyond a reasonable doubt or “definitive proof”; I ask only for evidence, any evidence, of non-complicity, other than florid, *ipse dixit* and self-serving denials and gratuitous exculpations.

One final note. In his article, Mr. Wick mentions the apparent fact that Lafayette S. Foster was not targeted for assassination on April 14 and refers to this as a “flaw” in the theory of Confederate complicity. Not really. To begin with, we don’t know with absolute certainty that Foster was not targeted. Remember that “Johnston” spoke of attempts on the lives of 15 Yankees. It is entirely possible that Foster was one of these, but that the attempt failed, as it did in every other case that night except for Booth’s attempt. Second, if he was not targeted, it was almost certainly because he was not a member of Lincoln’s inner circle and an attempt on his life, therefore, would have been seen as a clear indication, if not proof positive, of the real purpose of the conspiracy and therefore of the hand of Richmond behind it. As for leaving Foster alive, and the consequences of that fact as far as creating chaos in the federal government is concerned, it seems doubtful to me that the conspirators in Richmond and Montreal would have thought of every last detail, or would have believed that they could provide for every eventuality, or that they would have believed that taking out at least Lincoln, Johnson, Seward, Stanton and Grant, arguably the five most important people in the United States at that time, would not create the chaos they felt they needed to create an opening for them to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. “The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley”, said the Scottish poet Robert Burns. And Helmuth von Moltke, Chief of Staff of the Prussian army before World War I, added that “No battle plan survives first contact with the enemy”. The conspirators in Richmond were human beings, not robots. They could therefore be expected to make mistakes, and they did. It would have been an act without precedent or parallel if they didn’t.

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38. Tidwell, p. 164.



Borglum in his studio talking
To a visitor while standing behind his model for the N.C. Monument

Gutzon Borglum: Part Deux

by

Brian D. Kowell © January 2024

After writing my article about Gutzon Borglum and his work on Mount Rushmore and at Stone Mountain, I wondered what other Civil War monuments Borglum sculpted. Turns out quite a few.

On Seminary Ridge along West Confederate Avenue at Gettysburg National Military Park is the Borglum-created monument to the 32 North Carolina regiments whose soldiers fought and died at Gettysburg. This impressive, action depicting sculpture is one of the more memorable on the battlefield.

In 1913, the North Carolina commission of Civil War Veterans proposed placing a monument at Gettysburg. The North Carolina Chapter of the UDC and then-Governor Angus McLean took up the cause. They raised \$50,000 for the site and the statue. They approached Gutzon Borglum while he was working on Mount Rushmore. The committee assumed Borglum to have been a Ku Klux Klan member after his work on Stone Mountain. Always looking to make a buck, Borglum chose not to correct them and accepted the commission.ⁱ He designed the statue at his San Antonio, Texas studio using photographs of Confederate veterans as his models. The finished bronze sculpture stood 12 feet in height and featured five figures of North Carolina infantrymen advancing during the Pickett-Pettigrew Charge. The sculpture was mounted on a base of North

Carolina Balfour granite.ⁱⁱ In a photo printed here with permission of Tim Fulmer, Borglum is seen in his studio working on the statue.ⁱⁱⁱ

The monument was dedicated on July 3, 1929. Presiding at the dedication ceremony were North Carolina Governor O. Max Gardner, past Governor Angus W. McLean, Mrs. E. L. McKee, President of the North Carolina UDC, and Major General B. F. Cheatham, the Quartermaster-General of the U. S. Army and the son of the Confederate Major General. During his speech, General Cheatham told the story of how the North Carolinians became known as “Tar Heels.” According to the North Carolina State Museum, there was an intense rivalry between the troops from Virginia and North Carolina. After a particularly fierce engagement, “the Virginians, who had retreated, asked the North Carolinians what Confederate President Jefferson Davis would do with all of the tar he got from their state. The Carolinians responded that he would put it on the feet of Virginia soldiers to keep them from running in battle. Supposedly, when General Robert E. Lee heard of this encounter, he exclaimed, ‘God bless the Tar Heel boys.’”^{iv}



A model of the NC monument in Borglum's studio and the finished sculpture

Over the years, the monument suffered from corrosion and acid rain damage. Through local and state efforts, \$10,000 was raised to restore the statue. On January 24, 1985, it was hoisted by helicopter onto a trailer and transported to Cincinnati, Ohio for restoration. It was the first monument removed from the park for restoration.^v When returned it was re-dedicated on June 7, 1985.^{vi}

Another of Borglum's sculptures is the bronze equestrian statue of General Philip Sheridan located in the center of Sheridan Circle in Washington D.C. Borglum was not the first choice to do the statue. After Sheridan's death in 1888, Congress on March 2, 1889, authorized \$50,000 for construction of the monument. Sheridan's friend, John Quincy Adams Ward, was the original artist chosen. However, Ward procrastinated. When at last he submitted sketches and a completed model, Sheridan's wife, Irene, and the General's son disapproved - noting that the likeness of the general was not satisfactory.

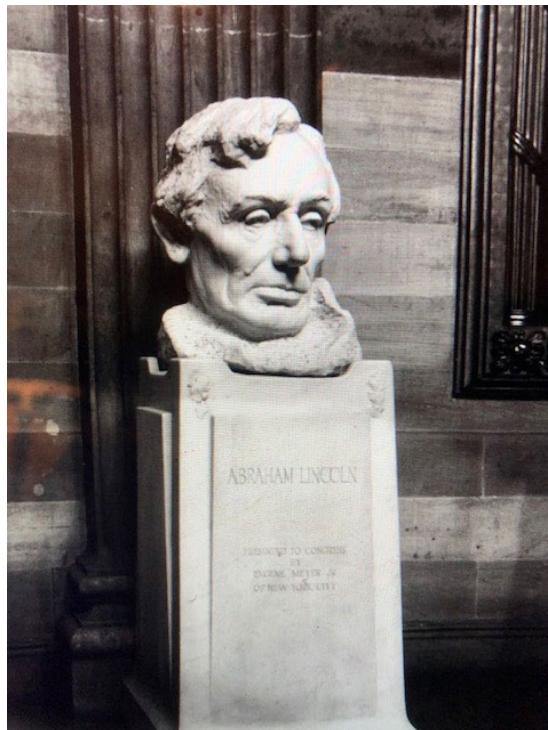
Ward's rival Borglum closely followed these events. Always needing money, he was determined to win the commission. He studied Sheridan, his life and likeness - reading memoirs and illustrated biographies. Hearing of a party in Washington D.C that Irene was to attend, Borglum secured an invitation. He sat next to Irene and impressed her with how much he knew

about her husband. By the end of the evening, Irene accepted an invitation to visit Borglum's Washington studio the next day. There he showed her various models of the General and horses. On July 2, 1907, Borglum received the commission. Since Philip, Jr. bore a close resemblance to his father, Borglum used him as a model for his father.

The sculpture depicts Sheridan riding his horse, Rienzi, as he rallies his troops at the Battle of Cedar Creek, on October 19, 1864. The bronze statue measures 10 feet in height and 12 feet long and stands on a granite base. Congress paid for the plaza, the base and the preparation of the site, while the veterans of the Army of the Cumberland paid for the statue. It was dedicated on November 25, 1908. President Theodore Roosevelt attended the unveiling and declared that it was "first rate."^{vii}

There is also a bust of President Abraham Lincoln made by Borglum in 1908 and located in the crypt of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington D.C.^{viii} In Newark, New Jersey, next to the Essex County Veterans Courthouse, is a bronze statue of President Lincoln by Borglum. Lincoln is seated on a bench, bareheaded, with his stovepipe hat resting beside him. The statue was funded by Newark businessman Amos Hoagland Van Horn for \$25,000. It was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 30, 1911, by President Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt supposedly exclaimed, "Why this doesn't look like a monument at all!" which Borglum took as a compliment.^{ix}

The last Civil War-related statue by Borglum is in New York City. –It is a larger-than-life-sized bronze statue of General Daniel Butterfield. It was dedicated on March 23, 1918, in Sakura Park in Manhattan. The standing figure is orientated to face Grant's Tomb across Riverside Drive. Butterfield had served as Assistant Treasurer of the United States during Grant's administration. Borglum had been so annoyed by the commissioning committee's numerous demands for



changes that instead of marking his signature on the base of the statute, he marked it on top of the General's head, claiming that this was the single aspect the committee had not required him to change.^x

The author would like to thank Mr. Tim Fulmer for his permission to use his copy of the picture of Gutzon Borglum in his Texas studio during his work on the North Carolina State monument. Mr. Fulmer is a Gettysburg guide that has an interesting website thank can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/timfulmergettysburg-guide/videos>.

ⁱ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Carolina_State_monument_\(Gettysburg_Pennsylvania\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Carolina_State_monument_(Gettysburg_Pennsylvania))

ⁱⁱ <https://www.ncpedia.org/gettysburg-monument>

ⁱⁱⁱ With permission from Tim Fulmer who is a Gettysburg Guide and also has a YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@timfulmergettysburg-guide/videos>

^{iv} <https://gettysburgcompiler.org/2011/07/14/north-carolina-and-virginia-monuments-at-gett/>

^v *Observer-Reporter*, Washington, Pennsylvania, Thursday, January 24, 1985.

^{vi} <https://www.nps.gov/gett/learn/historyculture/north-carolina-monument.htm>

^{vii} [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equestrian_statue_of_Philip_Sheridan_\(Washington_D.C.\)/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equestrian_statue_of_Philip_Sheridan_(Washington_D.C.)/) The location is on the center of Sheridan Circle, at the intersection of 23rd St., R. Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW, within the Embassy Row section of the Sheridan-Kalorama neighborhood. There is also a copy of the statue in Chicago, Illinois.

^{viii} Ibid.

^{ix} [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seated_Lincoln_\(Borglum\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seated_Lincoln_(Borglum))

^x https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sakura_Park



Borglum's Statue of Sheridan



Charles B. Seidel, Co. E, 3rd Ohio Cavalry

Are you related?

by

© Brian D. Kowell, November 20, 2024

Have you ever met someone whose last name you recognized as a Civil War personality, and wondered, if indeed, they were related to that person? On a routine visit to the Cleveland Clinic, I was ushered into an exam room by a nurse. I noticed her name tag read McClellan. I inquired if she was any relation to the Civil War general. She replied, "I think so. I remember my grandfather telling me something about that, but I have no interest."

While reading historian Dennis Belcher's book, *The Cavalry of the Army of Ohio*, I learned that the 3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry had an officer whose name was familiar to me. It was the name of one of our Round Table members. I was interested in finding out more about this man in Belcher's book, and if my friend was related to him.

I learned the 3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry was organized in Toledo, Ohio, and set up a camp of instruction in Monroeville. The 1200 troopers were led by Colonel Lewis Zahm of Norwalk. They then spent from September to December, 1861, at Camp Dennison outside of Cincinnati before being sent south to join Buell's army. They participated in the advance to Corinth and advanced east through northern Alabama, before chasing Bragg's army north toward Louisville, Kentucky. While the 1st battalion of the 3rd Ohio served at Perryville, the 2nd and 3rd battalions confronted Gen Kirby Smith's army.^{xi}

Following the Battle of Perryville, Bragg's and Smith's armies retreated south. The 3rd battalion of Zahm's regiment was split up to garrison various points in Kentucky. One such detachment,

of 290 troopers, was sent to Lexington, Kentucky. It consisted of companies C, G, I & K of the 3rd OVC and the 1st battalion of the 4th Ohio Cavalry, commanded by Maj. Oliver Robie. In overall command of these Ohio men was Maj. Charles B. Seidel. Seidel stationed 40 men as provost guard under Lt. Shoemaker at the Lexington Court House while 65 other troopers under Lt. James R. Hall patrolled the surrounding roads and countryside. His main body of 185 men camped in a woodlot on Henry Clay's 600-acre plantation called Ashland.^{xii}

Charles B. Seidel was born April 10, 1835 in Berlin, Germany. He immigrated to the United States in 1853, traveling and holding a variety of jobs. When President Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 volunteers after the firing on Fort Sumter, Seidel was a carriage maker in Columbus, Ohio. Seidel enlisted in the 90-day, 1st Ohio Volunteer Infantry as a private, and honorable discharged at the conclusion of his term. He then enlisted in the 3rd Ohio Cavalry as a captain. He would work his way up through its ranks to become colonel of the regiment by 1863. But now, he was a brevet-major commanding 290 men in Lexington.^{xiii}

At daybreak of October 18, 1862, pickets informed Maj. Seidel about a large force of Confederate cavalry approaching. He ordered company I to attack the Confederates while he got the rest of his command mounted and ready for combat. Company I soon came streaming back with word that they were facing overwhelming numbers. Closing in was the 3rd, 4th & 9th Kentucky regiments, totaling 1800 men, of Col. John Hunt Morgan's cavalry. Accompanying the gray clad troopers was a section of artillery. Learning that Lexington, his hometown, was lightly defended, Morgan attacked directly with one regiment, while sending the other two to surround the bluecoats.

Seidel ordered his troopers to dismount and open fire. They held their ground for 15-20 minutes when the Major ordered them to mount and fall back another 200 yards, only to find rebel cavalry blocking their way. "Thus, our little handful of brave men was [sic] completely surrounded by an overwhelming force and within easy pistol range . . . Further resistance would be vain, and the Major reluctantly gave the order to surrender."^{xiv}

"As the men had laid down their arms the Rebels commenced pouring in upon them a deadly crossfire," wrote Lt. Oliver Brown of Co. B, 3rd OVC. ". . . and the wonder is that any of them escaped alive." One Yankee trooper supposedly retrieved his gun and wounded a Confederate officer who he thought was John Hunt Morgan. Instead it was Morgan's cousin, Maj. George Washington Morgan. There are some accounts that say Wash Morgan was mortally wounded by friendly crossfire. When the firing finally stopped, an angry Seidel complained of this brutal act of firing on surrendering men. The rebel's excuse was one of the Yankee officers was seen still holding a pistol.^{xv}

Seidel lost 4 killed and 8 wounded, while Morgan lost 11 killed and 15 wounded. Seidel and his surviving troopers were marched to the Ashland plantation and given their paroles. The rebels took all their equipment and horses while Seidel and his band had to walk 24 miles until they reached Union lines. They were then sent to Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, where they would eventually be exchanged.^{xvi}

Charles B. Seidel and the 3rd OVC would serve at Stone's River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga and the Atlanta campaigns. They fought at Franklin and Nashville before accompanying Gen. James Wilson on his cavalry raid through Alabama and Georgia. Seidel survived the war, mustering out as colonel at Camp Chase in August, 1865.

Seidel settled in Lyndon, Kentucky. He married Appolonia (Zeigler) Seidel and fathered three children: George C. Seidel, 1871-1936, William B. Seidel, 1873-1950, and Minnie Irene Seidel, 1881-1975. Charles B. Seidel died on March 14, 1916 and is buried at Cave Hill Cemetery, Kentucky.^{xvii}

At Seidel's memorial, his chief bugler, Charles O. Brown, eulogized him saying:

No braver man ever drew his sword in defense of his country. We loved him because he was not only brave and efficient in battle, but because he was good to the men in the ranks and always had their interest at heart. He never told us to go where he was not willing to lead us.^{xviii}

At our November meeting of the Round Table, I approached Paul Seidel. I told him the story and asked if he was related to the colonel. If you would like to know, ask Paul next time you see him.

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^{xii} Croft, History *Third Ohio Cavalry*, p.51-54.

^{xiii} <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~thirdovc/genelogy/text/seidel.txt>

^{xiv} *Daily Toledo Blade (Ohio)*, October 27, 1862, p.2. Letter from First Lieutenant Oliver M. Brown, Co. B, 3rd OVC. <https://dan-masters-civil-war-blogspot.com/2021/11/with-stigma-of-paroled-prisoners-3rd.html>

^{xv} Ibid.

^{xvi} Ibid

^{xvii} www.findagrave.com/memorial/10349376/charles-b-seidel

^{xviii} <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~thirdovc/genelogy/text/seidel.txt>



A sutler token redeemable at 3rd Ohio Cavalry sutler