



GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the
Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
Our 62nd Year
and The Iron Brigade Association



DECEMBER 9, 2010

SAMUEL C. HYDE, JR., PH.D.

A Wisconsin Yankee in Confederate Bayou Country: Halbert E. Paine and the Sources of Union Victory and Remembrance in the Lower Mississippi Valley

Halbert E. Paine commanded the Fourth Wisconsin Regiment during Civil War operations that included early maneuvering on the Maryland Peninsula, the occupation of New Orleans and capture of Baton Rouge, the Bayou Teche Campaign, and the siege of Port Hudson. Paine's reminiscences not only reveal much about the Union purpose in the War and the attitudes of Confederates, but also the subtle advantages enjoyed by Federal forces that contributed to the final outcome. His observations highlight the suppression of guerrilla operations, the treatment of southern civilians and property, and the attitudes of Union soldiers toward slavery and conquered peoples all from the perspective of a duty-bound citizen soldier from the West.



Our Round Table welcomes **Dr. Samuel Hyde, Jr.**, as our December speaker with his presentation on Halbert E. Paine who, nearly forty years after the end of the war, penned his recollections of his wartime exploits.

Dr. Hyde, a professor of history at Southeastern Louisiana University, is the Director of the Center for Southeast Louisiana Studies and holds the Leon Ford Endowed Chair in Regional History. Hyde is the author or editor of several books including *Pistols and Politics: The Dilemma of Democracy in Louisiana's Florida Parishes, 1810-1899*. He is also the author of numerous articles as well as a script writer and producer of numerous films including *Louisiana's Florida Parishes: Securing the Good Life from a Troubled Land*. Hyde, a northern Tangipahoa Parish native, serves as executive director of the Gulf South Historical Association. His work has been featured in numerous regional and national media outlets such as The Discovery Channel, The History Channel, ABC's *World News Tonight*, National Public Radio, and *The New York Times*.



*The disparities of the season
Harper's Weekly, 1864*

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December 2010

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DECEMBER MEETING AT A GLANCE

December 9, 2010
Samuel C. Hyde, Jr.
"A Wisconsin Yankee in Confederate Bayou Country: Halbert E. Paine and the Sources of Union Victory and Remembrance in the Lower Mississippi Valley"

Country Club of the Wisconsin Club
(formerly Brynwood Country Club)
6200 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee
See map on page 7.
Jackets required for dining room.
Valet parking is highly recommended.

5:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting
(Open to all members)
6:15 p.m. – Registration & Social Hour
6:45 p.m. – Dinner
7:30 p.m. – Program
Dinner – \$23 by reservation.
Deadline: Monday, December 6, 2010
See page 7.

Speaker and topic are subject to change.
In case of inclement weather, listen to
WTMJ or WISN radio.

www.civilwarwi.org

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

Now is the perfect time to consider ordering one of the regalia items for the gift-giving season. All items are made of first-rate, quality materials, modestly embroidered with the Round Table/Iron Brigade logo, along with your name or initials. A great way to show off your pride in our organization!

Mail: Roman Blenski, Quartermaster
4601 W. Holt Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53219
Call: 414-327-2847
Fax: 414-543-8289
Email: dbcpmilw@execpc.com
In Person: Monthly Meeting at Book Raffle

ITEM	COST
Blue Brief Case.....	\$25.00
Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt.....	\$30.00
Blue Izod Polo Shirt.....	\$40.00
Blue Dress Shirt.....	\$40.00
Blue Fleece-Lined Jacket.....	\$60.00
Iron Brigade Pin.....	\$5.00
CWRT Pin.....	\$5.00
Bugle Pin.....	\$5.00
Iron Brigade Medal.....	\$25.00
Red River Medal.....	\$25.00
CWRT 60 Year Medal.....	\$10.00

IN MEMORIAM



It is with sadness that we report the passing of **Caroline Jamrozy**, Round Table member and mother of past president Gene Jamrozy. *“And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.”*



In December 1949, Robert B. Browne spoke to the Round Table about “Brice’s Crossroads.”

Bish Thompson talked about “How to Enjoy a War” in December 1956.

“Civil War Battlefields as They Are Now” was Donald Gerlinger’s topic in December 1961.

In December 1975, Harry H. Anderson and John Porter spoke on “Rufus King, Otto Eisenschiml and The Fitz-John Porter Court Martial.

Myron (Mike) Cohn talked about “The Signal Corps and the Military Telegraph in the Civil War.”

“I Will Never Recall a Word!” “Lincoln Vowed” was David E. Long’s topic in December 1994.

ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

Saturday, December 11, 2010

Wreaths Across America
Wood National Cemetery, 11 a.m.

Saturday, December 11, 2010

Kenosha Civil War Museum
Victorian Christmas, Noon – 4 p.m.

December 13, 2010

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table Christmas Party
Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center

December 21, 2010

Prairieville Irregulars, 7 p.m.
Student Center Building, Carroll University
Speaker: Lance Herdegen

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ IN THIS MONTH • DECEMBER ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

December 8, 1860 • Secretary of the Treasury Howell Cobb of Georgia resigned, marking the first break in President Buchanan’s Cabinet. Cobb, formerly a strong Unionist, now felt that the election of a Republican justified secession saying, “The evil has now passed beyond control, and must be met by each and all of us, under our responsibility to God and our country.”

December 10, 1861 • The Confederate Congress in Richmond admitted the state of Kentucky to the Confederacy. The Kentucky Confederate government was in exile or shifting continuously throughout the war.

The U.S. House of Representatives approved the Senate resolution for the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, passed the day before.

December 8, 1862 • President Davis, concerned over several threats to the Confederacy, wrote to Lee at Fredericksburg, “In Tennessee and Mississippi the disparity between our armies and those of the enemy is so great as to fill me with apprehension.” Davis announced his intention to go west immediately.

December 7, 1863 • Congress meets—in both Washington and Richmond. In Washington the first session of the Thirty-eighth Congress convened while in Richmond the fourth session of the First Congress convened. In his message to Congress, Davis wrote of the “grave reverses” of the past summer and stated that the progress of the enemy “has been checked.” Davis concluded his message by condemning the “savage ferocity” of the Federal forces and further stated that “the patriotism of the people has proved equal to every sacrifice demanded by their country’s need.”

December 6, 1864 • General Grant issued new orders to General Thomas at Nashville: “Attack Hood at once and wait no longer for remount of your cavalry. There is great danger of delay resulting in a campaign back to the Ohio River.”

December 7, 1864 • Grant told Stanton that if Thomas did not attack promptly he should be removed.

December 8, 1864 • Grant told Halleck in Washington: “If Thomas has not struck yet, he ought to be ordered to hand over his command to Schofield.” Grant once again urged Thomas to attack. Thomas wired Grant that his cavalry would not be ready before December 11.

Kenosha Civil War Museum

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 11, 2010, Noon – 4 p.m.

Experience Christmas as people did during the Victorian era: dancing demonstrations and instruction by members of the West Side Victorian Dancers; RG Radio Productions' presentation of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*; displays and demonstrations of Christmas during the Civil War by the Historical Timekeepers.

MRS. LINCOLN'S TEA

Sunday, December 12, 2010, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Jessica Michna presents a first-person impression of Mrs. Lincoln and talks about her years in the White House. An afternoon tea follows complete with tea, finger sandwiches and sweets. Mrs. Lincoln also welcomes Mrs. Louis P. "Cordelia" Harvey, portrayed by Mary Kababik, to tea. These women provide different views of Abraham Lincoln. Advance registration required. Call: (262) 653-4140. \$25/\$20 Friends of the Museum.

BODICES, BONNETS AND WEEDS – CIVIL WAR AND MID-VICTORIAN FASHIONS

This new exhibit opens December 11, 2010, in the John M. Antaramian Gallery on the upper floor of the museum.

The exhibit presents a timeline of common middle-class day wear fashions between 1860 and 1880. The photographs, clothing and accessories featured in the exhibit show what the average, upper-midwestern women wore on a daily basis during these decades.

The collection of artifacts is on loan from private collector Nancy Wolfe of Galena, Illinois.

CIVIL WAR NEWS

The **Battle of Franklin Trust** has received the Chairman's Award for Excellence from the Civil War Preservation Trust "for exemplary efforts to preserve and share our nation's Civil War heritage with current and future generations of Americans."

Legislation authorizing the expansion of the **Vicksburg National Military Park** has been introduced by U.S. Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker.

The Champion Hill, Port Gibson and Raymond Battlefield Addition Act would authorize the National Park Service to acquire—through voluntary sale, donation or exchange—approximately 10,000 acres of property determined to be significant to the preservation of historic battlefield sites. The legislation was developed with input from the NPS, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Civil War Preservation Trust and local officials.

"Interest in protecting battlefield sites is heightened as the nation prepares for the 150th anniversary of the start of that war. This legislation would allow new protections for sites in Mississippi, and I hope it can be enacted soon with broad support," said Senator Cochran.

The measure has been referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.



On the Web

Civil War 150 is a newly created special section of the *Washington Post* dedicated to ongoing special coverage of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. Do take time to visit this site, and visit it often. You'll find videos, photos, articles and a listing of events across the country scheduled to celebrate the sesquicentennial. There is also an ongoing blog called *A House Divided* that focuses on both news and views about the Civil War. A very nice website!

To visit the site go to: www.washingtonpost.com, click on the Arts & Living section and scroll down to Civil War 150. You'll want to add this one to your favorites.

The Civil War Studies Website sponsored by the Smithsonian Associates is also a very good website. You'll find a variety of good articles to read along with a little trivia and information on battlefield tours and lectures.

To visit the site go to: www.civilwarstudies.org

CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL NEWS

Cities and towns across our state are planning a wide variety of events for the 2011-2015 Sesquicentennial.

"**Rally 'Round the Flag,**" the highlight of 2011 activities in Dane and Rock counties, will take place in **Evansville** on May 21-22, 2011. The Civil War homefront gathering will feature an encampment and an afternoon concert and evening Ball by the 1st Brigade Band. Information: deckercorp@charter.net or (608) 882-5528.

Cambridge will host its first Civil War encampment on Saturday, May 14, 2011.

Reclaiming Our Heritage, the annual living history and veteran tribute event, will host its 3rd **American Heroes Ball** on March 5, 2011, at the Marian Center for Nonprofits. The annual event on June 4-5, 2011, will focus on Civil War recruiting and drilling and homefront activities. Information: www.forohmilwaukee.org or (414) 427-3776.

The **Kenosha Civil War Museum** will kick off its commemoration with a Grand Union Ball, April 16, 2011, at the museum. The West Side Victorian Dancers will provide an afternoon workshop as well as calling for the dance.

An Interview with David A. Powell

An Interview with the author of *Failure in the Saddle: Nathan Bedford Forrest, Joe Wheeler and the Confederate Cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign*. This interview by Savas Beatie (SB) is printed in its entirety with permission of the publisher. This and other author interviews are available online: www.savas-beatie.com

The Confederate cavalry has a storied and generally favorable relationship with the history of the Civil War. Despite the brutal nature of the larger conflict, tales of raids and daring exploits all create a whiff of romance that lingers about the horse-soldiers of the Lost Cause. Sometimes, however, romance obscures history.

SB: How long have you been interested in the Civil War?

DAP: Since I was a teenager. Like most people I read on Eastern Theater battles, especially Gettysburg and wrote a couple short articles on that battle. Later I started reading on the war in the West. The more I read I realized there was more in print for Gettysburg alone than the entire war in the West. The difference is really striking. Chickamauga grabbed my interest, but there wasn't that much available on it. I realized there was opportunity here, and the more I researched, the more I became fascinated by this confusing battle.

SB: What was it about Chickamauga in general that drew your interest?

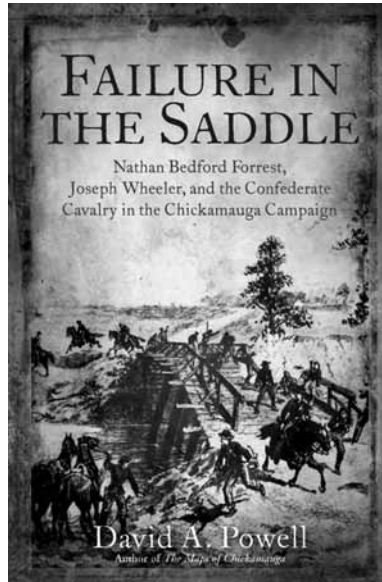
DAP: It was extremely complex and yet so little studied. Many Civil War battles have been written about extensively, and with different points of view. Joe Harsh's take on Antietam, for example, differs significantly from Stephen Sears'. But only a couple books have been written on Chickamauga in the past forty years. There are only a couple worthwhile studies on the entire campaign.

SB: So you wanted to learn more about this battle /campaign?

DAP: Yes. The deeper I probed, the more I realized that understanding the battle would require going beyond anything that had been published thus far.

SB: Why do you think it was important to write *Failure in the Saddle*?

DAP: Because how cavalry impacts battles is not well understood. Increasingly, Civil War scholarship is examining and appreciating the role of cavalry in the campaign setting. Once battle is joined, cavalry plays at best a peripheral role on the great fields of the war—but while the armies are maneuvering, the cavalry's role is preeminent. Generals win the laurels for victory and bear the blame for defeat, but they can only be as good as their information allows them to be. Braxton Bragg is not a Great Captain, but it is clear that he was ill-served by his mounted arm in September 1863.



SB: On paper, the Confederate cavalry should have run rings around their Federal opponents during the Chickamauga campaign. Do you agree?

DAP: I do agree. Bragg's cavalry had both the numbers and, on the face of it, competent—even storied—leadership. And yet the Federals kept the upper hand for most of the campaign. Bragg was repeatedly given bad information or none at all, and had to make critical decisions based on this intelligence. And so his plans miscarried over and over. Of course, other problems existed within the Army of Tennessee that made things worse, but we might think of Bragg differently today had his cavalry been up to the tasks assigned to it.

SB: How competent was Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans as an army commander?

DAP: In my opinion Rosecrans could easily have been in the top tier of generals (and enjoyed a successful political career) except for one or two flaws. He was an excellent organizer, trainer, and disciplinarian. He was a complex strategic thinker. He drafted ambitious plans that embraced wide maneuver and envelopments, and proved that he could execute these plans—most notably at Tullahoma. His physical courage and concern for his men made him wildly popular among the rank and file. And he was not afraid to fight his army.

However, he had a deaf ear politically, and displayed disregard, and even scorn, for his superiors. His relationship with them went downhill after his victory at Stone's River and much of that was his own fault. He was not good at making do with what he had. He meddled on the battlefield. He interfered with his chain of command and failed to let his corps commanders exercise their responsibilities. These flaws, more than any battlefield defeat, doomed him.

SB: What did Rosecrans do right in the battle?

DAP: Once he understood the Confederates were not retreating and were planning to spring a trap of their own, he reacted quickly. Between September he gathered his scattered army and avoided the worst of the danger. When the battle began on the 19th, he aggressively supported General Thomas, whose morning attacks disrupted the Rebel battle plan. He grasped the relative positions of the armies more quickly than did Bragg, and he kept looking for ways to find and turn one of Bragg's flanks—and he nearly did a couple times.

SB: What mistakes did Rosecrans make once the battle got underway?

DAP: As the battle progressed, he placed too much emphasis on Thomas' sector. He fed so many troops to Thomas that his other two corps commanders became almost superfluous. McCook and Crittenden were not budding Napoleons, but they were reasonably competent. By the morning of the 20th Rosecrans had

bypassed them in his chain of command and was managing individual divisions. He did so poorly and with fatal results when the infamous gap opened in his lines at the Brotherton house. This occurred because he was overwhelmed with tactical details, had lost sight of the bigger picture, and had slept little over the past few days and not at all the night before. This lack of sleep seriously impacted his judgment. Of this I have no doubt.

SB: How competent was Gen. Braxton Bragg as an army commander?

DAP: On paper Bragg was an ideal commander. Like Rosecrans, he was a good disciplinarian, administrator, trainer, and strategist. He lacked the personal touch, however, and was often at odds with his subordinates. He was incapable of forging a group of individual officers into an effective command team, which proved to be his downfall. His army was rife with suspicion and discontent, an atmosphere that influenced even recent arrivals. As a result, his generals tended to pessimism and defeatism.

SB: Something even John Bell Hood discovered when he arrived on September 18...

DAP: Exactly. Hood was stunned by the pessimism displayed by the officers fighting under Bragg. When he remarked to General Breckinridge that “we [will] rout the enemy the next day,” Breckinridge demonstrated surprise and jumped up and said he was “delighted to hear so.” Hood was from Lee’s Virginia army and accustomed to battlefield success. Bragg’s officers had no such expectations. The failure to inspire confidence in his officers and men is one of Bragg’s greatest failings as a general.

SB: Chickamauga is an important campaign rife with colorful characters, controversy, hard fighting, and politics. It has one of the best preserved battlefields in the world and hundreds of thousands of tourists visit each year. Why has it received so little attention?

DAP: The short answer is complexity. The battle is hard to understand, let alone write about. The battlefield is heavily timbered, and most authors are interested in the Eastern Theater. Few are

willing to tackle the tangle of stories that make up the Chickamauga campaign. More works are being written today about Western battles, and this is good news for the study of the Civil War.

SB: Civilian and academic historians pay it scant attention, but the military takes the battle very seriously, right?

DAP: Yes. Among military officers, Chickamauga is one of the most widely studied battles of the Civil War. In the 1980s, the Command and General Staff School of the US Army selected Chickamauga as the main focus for their professional development course. Chickamauga has been studied by generations of soldiers from all over the world. A large number of unpublished but readily available theses from this course focus on specific aspects of the campaign from the point of view of professional officers.

SB: What would you like to see done next for Chickamauga?

DAP: A new full-length study on the entire campaign. The last appeared in 1992, and there is ample room for a new perspective. I think there is room for a volume on each day of the battle, much as we have seen for Gettysburg. There are thousands of untapped archival sources. I believe an entirely new portrait of the battle can be drawn from this wealth of underused resources.

SB: What about Tullahoma?

DAP: A scholarly work on the Tullahoma Campaign is also overdue. Rosecrans and the Army of the Cumberland executed this operation at the end of June 1863, and it was the forerunner to Rosecrans’ more ambitious undertaking against Chattanooga that fall. But there was no large battle during this operation, so it has been all but ignored. Understanding Tullahoma, especially with regard to logistics, is necessary in order to understand Chickamauga.

SB: Dave, thank you for your time.

DAP: My pleasure. I hope your readers will enjoy Chickamauga as much as I do.

Failure in the Saddle: Nathan Bedford Forrest, Joe Wheeler and the Confederate Cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign, David A. Powell, Hardcover, 408 pages, \$34.95, ISBN: 978-1-932714-87-6. www.savasbeatie.com or sales@savasbeatie.com. Anyone who orders a copy from the Savas Beatie website also receives a bookplate signed by the author.

THE BOOK NOOK

Bloody Crimes: The Chase for Jefferson Davis and the Death Pageant for Lincoln’s Corpse by James Swanson

If you read Swanson’s previous book, *Manhunt, The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer*, you may want to add his newest book to your collection.

In *Bloody Crimes* Swanson centers not on the war but on the journeys of two men—one dead, the other whose cause is dead—to their destinies. The author tells the story of Lincoln’s long journey home after his assassination and parallels it with Davis’s journey into captivity after the war.

In this book we are at the scene after Booth fires his shot at Ford’s Theatre, we follow the moving of Lincoln’s body to the Peterson house and witness Mary Lincoln’s “wails of a broken heart.” Swanson takes us on Lincoln’s thirteen-day journey through tent cities and home to Springfield.

In counterpoint, we see Davis’s journey as he travels with a \$100,000 bounty on his head. A month-long manhunt through four states would finally end in Georgia, where he was captured on the Abbeyville Road on May 10, 1865, thirty-eight days after fleeing Richmond. Davis’s journey would culminate in a two-year captivity in Fort Monroe. Unlike Lincoln, Davis lived on after his journey, living out his final years in his home near Biloxi, Mississippi.

Swanson won the Edgar Award for *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer*. He serves on the advisory council of the Ford’s Theatre Society. Swanson, born on Lincoln’s birthday, has studied and collected books, documents, photographs, art, and artifacts from Lincoln’s life—and death—since he was ten years old.

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL.

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MILWAUKEE, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24, 1860.

NUMBER 291.

THE SENTINEL.

Daily, \$7;—Tri-Weekly, \$4;—Weekly, \$1.50

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

JERMAIN & BRIGHTMAN,
Publishers and Proprietors.

T. D. JERMAIN R. D. BRIGHTMAN

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 24, 1860.

To the Public

THE SENTINEL, having double the circulation in the City, and more than treble OUT OF IT, of an other paper here, renders it far the cheapest and most desirable medium in Milwaukee for all class of Advertisements.

☞ For Telegraph, &c., See Fourth Page. ☞

News of the Morning.

The repair shop of the Central Ohio R. R., at Zanesville, Ohio, was destroyed by fire on Friday night. Loss \$10,000.

The President will send a special message to Congress to-day, on the subject of Secession.

The residence of President BUCHANAN, at Wheatland, is threatened with destruction, should Fort Moultrie fall into the hands of the secessionists.

The U. S. steamer *Mohican* has captured another slaver on the African coast, having 900 negroes on board.

President LINCOLN is said to be opposed to any concession or compromise that shall yield one iota of the position occupied by the Republican party. Right.

A paper is in circulation for signatures at Richmond, Virginia, requesting JOHN MINOR BOTTS to leave the State, his views, as expressed in a recent letter, being considered obnoxious.

Mrs. ELIZABETH FITCH poisoned her child, and then committed suicide, at Manchester, N.H., on Saturday.

The New Jersey Zinc Works, at Newark, were partially burned Friday night. Loss \$8,000.

The City of Manchester has passed Cape Race, with foreign advices of Dec. 18th.—No news of importance. Breadstuffs are reported down, with an upward tendency.

An American slaver, with 700 negroes, has been captured on the coast of Cuba.

The Inciters of Insurrection.

We published some days since, a remarkable letter from a lady in South Carolina, speaking of the dread which overhung that State, of a servile insurrection and ascribing this to the right source—not the machinations of Northern men, as charged by President BUCHANAN and the doughfaces, but to the indiscreet talk of Southern men and Southern papers. The *Cambridge Intelligencer*, published in Maryland, bears the following strong testimony to the same fact:

“The picture of insecurity is correct, but he signally fails in his discrimination of the cause. It is not the agitation at the North which excites our slaves and alarms the citizens. It is the agitation of the subject in the South which we have cause to dread. The Democratic party is the true source of our present troubles. It is the Democratic speeches and papers which have excited our negroes. They never hear anything from the Northern Abolitionists. Their notions of freedom have been gained through Democratic sources. They hear the Democratic speeches, they read the Democratic papers. These teem with incendiary assertions about negro suffrage and equality which the success of the Republicans would bring about. We know that in the county the Democrats have repeatedly declared, upon the stump and in the presence of negroes, that if the Republicans were elected the negroes would be set at liberty, be permitted to vote, and marry our daughters.

It was only a few days since that we heard the very leader of the party in this country declare in our public streets, and in the presence of some negroes, who were standing by, that the Republicans intended to let negroes vote. Those who hear the incendiary declarations of these men, communicate them to the rest of their color, and when their expectations are so excited that they become aroused to violence, we are told that the Republicans have done it—that Northern agitation is the true source of our troubles. Let the responsibility rest where it belongs. The Northern agitators have had no hand in the matter. The agitation might go on at the North until doomsday without any injury to our slaves. Our negroes never read the Northern papers, nor hear the Northern orators. They read these things in Democratic papers, and hear them from Democratic speakers. We fasten upon them, therefore, the charge of being authors of our calamities.”

FORT MOULTRIE.—Fort Moultrie was defended by four hundred and seventy-five men in the American Revolution. In nullification times, under President Jackson, it contained eight hundred men; but now, when it should be made impregnable, the gallant commander has only *sixty-four men* to protect it against the assault of an excited and hostile State.

☞ NUMBERS OF THE DAILY SENTINEL containing a full list of the names of persons lost by the *Lady Elgin* disaster can be obtained at our counter. Also copies of Friday morning's issue, containing the statement of the Young Men's Association and Mr. CAVERNO, in relation to the late difficulty between these parties and Rev. Mr. CORNING. Also copies of Tuesday's issue containing Mr. CORNING's statement. Single copies five cents.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.—To-morrow will be Christmas. Let it be merry. Hang up your Christmas trees, load them with toys and candles—let the Christian world rejoice. To our many friends and readers, everywhere, we wish all the happiness that belongs to the season—may wealth and prosperity attend you, and many years bring each a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

CUSHMAN'S ENTERTAINMENT.—It will be seen by the advertisement that the American vocalist and humorist, LE-GRAND B. CUSHMAN, is to give one of his intimitable entertainments at Albany Hall, on Wednesday evening next, for the benefit of the sufferers in Kansas. The press everywhere has spoken in most enthusiastic terms of Mr. CUSHMAN's entertainments. The St. Louis *Democrat* thus refers to him:

“Cushman was received with the appreciation his talents so richly merit, by a full house at Library Hall, on last evening. The spontaneous outbursts of applause by all present, manifested the complete success of his presentation of a great variety of characters. This evening he appears again in some of his best pieces. We anticipate another crowded house, which he justly deserves.”

THE CALICO BALL.—A grand Calico Ball for the benefit of the Chicago (Unitarian) Ministry at Large, will come off on the evening of Dec. 26th, at Bryan Hall, Chicago. It is requested that on this occasion the Floras will appear in the costume of “Nothing to Wear,” or in the same thing with them, in a calico dress, these calicos after the ball, to be donated to the Ministry. The gentlemen on this occasion are requested to appear in suits costing from \$5 to \$10. No white kids, white waistcoats, rigolettos, opera capes, diamonds, musk, or Jockey Club, will be allowed admission.

WOOLEN GOODS.—Nothing can be more acceptable as a holiday present to a young lady than one of S. Lattamer's fashionable “Jockeys.” His large supplies of embroideries and knitted goods, at No. 295 Third street, should command the attention of both ladies and gentlemen.

The wearers of Palmetto cockades in Washington, on finding that they were mistaken for the footmen of the foreign ministers, soon dropped them, and they are decidedly at a discount now. May they speedily retire to the limbo of contempt, even in South Carolina.—*Baltimore Post*

This Milwaukee *Sentinel* facsimile was created by Patricia Lynch as part of the Civil War Sesquicentennial efforts of the West Side Soldiers Aid Society. Copyright © 2010, WSSAS, Inc. All rights reserved. Excerpts are from December 24, 1860, with a few passages from December 20, 25 and 27, 1860.

From the Editor.

Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas to all! What a crisp antique relish there is in the salutation. It smells frosty, and has the glow of huge fires. It tells of ample dinners and cheerful home circles; of free lunches and flying corks; of turkeys brown and reeking; of gas lighted parlors filled with festivity; of pleasant nut crackings and apple parings; of monstrous Christmas trees dropping saccharine riches; of infantile choruses; of crying babies made of Indian rubber; of vases and CHICKERING's grand action, gummy with candy; of long stockings that we used to pin up by the old fireplace, and wonder how SANTA CLAUS ever got through the soot; of boisterous sleighing parties, when snow was a holiday fashion; of skating parties, and what not.

The very breath of Christmas has as many spices as ever came on the sea zephyr from Ceylon. Everybody ought to shake hands—metaphorically at least—to-day. Fingers that have been clutched all the year should be shook out—arms that are wearied with labor should be rested, pinched faces should be pulled out with a merry rotundity; little feet that drop music about your household should have an extra note today. All the sour, crusty old dogs who live on vinegar ought to be shook up, all the old bachelors should be serenaded all day with tin whistles, tin trumpets, drums, and articulating dogs and horses. The whole Christian World should cover up its sackcloth and put its ashes in the proper receptacle. MERRY—mind you—MERRY CHRISTMAS, do you know what it means? If you are an Englishman, you have a recollection of carols and pantomimes and Christmas boxes and gigantic plum puddings, you understand it. Merry, is the word. *Yule* logs will burn as well in this century as in the last.

It is positively imperative that you should be merry, if God has not set a seal on your house, and the destroying angel has not overshadowed your family altar. The Day is the Almighty's present to man. Every hour in it is sacred to Christman enjoyment. The beautiful superstition of our ancestors made the world safe from evil spirits on Christmas, and if we enjoy it as we should the superstition is not only beautiful, but orthodox.

We repeat it, “Merry.” The old globe itself takes an extra turn, for ought we know Childhood will be set to poetry. Religion becomes an anthem of joy. Mankind may taste a little of Millenium—on Merry Christmas. Who of us can lift the veil of the future; who has the glass that shall discern the circumstances on the dim shores of the months to come? None of us. But in the sunshine of to-day our hearts may be glad, and we can throw the benison of “many MERRY CHRISTMASSES” ahead; and gladness and kindness shall invigorate us for the round of another year.

News From the Field

December 10, 1861 • *The weather became so intensely cold that we had to adopt some plan to keep from freezing. We pegged our tent as close to the ground as possible, and covered over the lap with dirt. We then built a sort of fireplace at the foot, with the chimney just outside the tent, and got a good bed of twigs and straw to lie on; had the opening of the tent so arranged that we could fasten it tight, and at night, beneath our heavy covering, we nestled together like a litter of young pigs. Though the thermometer was ten below zero, we slept warm and comfortable.*

—Pvt. Barber, Co. D, 15th Illinois Volunteer Infantry,
Otterville, Missouri

December 15, 1863 • *We have concluded to build a house for winter and have been cutting and hauling pine logs for the purpose today. The troops had four pounds of sweet potatoes issued today in lieu of bread. "Hard up Ike" who has been over to the cavalry camp says they are worse off. He says the "spurred" gentry are cutting down old trees and robbing the woodpeckers of their winter store of acorns to the great discomfiture of the red-headed foresters. He says he saw an old woodpecker expostulate in vain with a cavalrman to leave her stores alone.*

—Pvt. Jackman, "The Orphan Brigade,"
Dalton, Georgia



Spielberg Lincoln Movie Has a Start Date.

Spielberg's *Lincoln*, based on Pulitzer Prize winner Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals*, is set to start filming in the fall of 2011 with an anticipated release in the fall of 2012.

Liam Neeson, previously set to play the president, dropped out of the project which, for a time, put the film's future in doubt. Spielberg has now cast Oscar-winning British actor Daniel Day-Lewis to play Lincoln. Day-Lewis is a two-time Oscar winner. "Daniel Day-Lewis would have always been counted as one of the greatest actors were he from the silent era, the golden age of film or even some time in cinema's distant future. I am grateful and inspired that our paths will finally cross with *Lincoln*," Spielberg said.

The screenplay for the movie was written by Pulitzer Prize winner Tony Kushner.

December Meeting

Our December meeting will be held at the **Country Club of the Wisconsin Club**, formerly the Brynwood Country Club, located at 6200 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee WI 53223 (414) 353-8800.

Valet Parking is highly recommended.

Please note: There is construction on Good Hope Rd. but the Country Club is accessible.

**THE COUNTRY CLUB OF
THE WISCONSIN CLUB**



Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for December 9, 2010

Mail your reservations by Monday, December 6, 2010, to: **Paul Eilbes**
1809 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

ALSO, call in reservations to:
(262) 376-0568

Enclosed is \$ _____ (meal price \$23.00 per person) for _____ reservations for December 9, 2010, meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member _____

General Orders, the official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., is produced September through May and upon request of the Board of Directors.

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All address changes or problems receiving your *General Orders* should be directed through Membership Chairman Paul Eilbes.

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Contact Paul Eilbes for information: (262) 376-0568.

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., admits members of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges and activities of the Round Table.

CWRT of Milwaukee, Inc. • 2010 - 2011 Meetings

December 9, 2010

Samuel C. Hyde, Jr., Ph.D., "A Wisconsin Yankee in the Confederate Bayou Country"

January 13, 2011

Lawrence L. Hewitt, Ph.D., "Slandered Heroes: Deserters Who Didn't"

February 10, 2011

Steven Rogstad

March 10, 2010

Susan Boardman, Gettysburg Cyclorama

April 7, 2011

Richard M. McMurry, Ph.D., TBA

May 12, 2011

Tom Schott, Ph.D., Alexander Stephens

June 9, 2011

Peter Carmichael, Ph.D., TBA

Speaker and topic are subject to change. In case of inclement weather, listen to WTMJ or WISN radio.