



# NEWS

## Issue 40: August 2023

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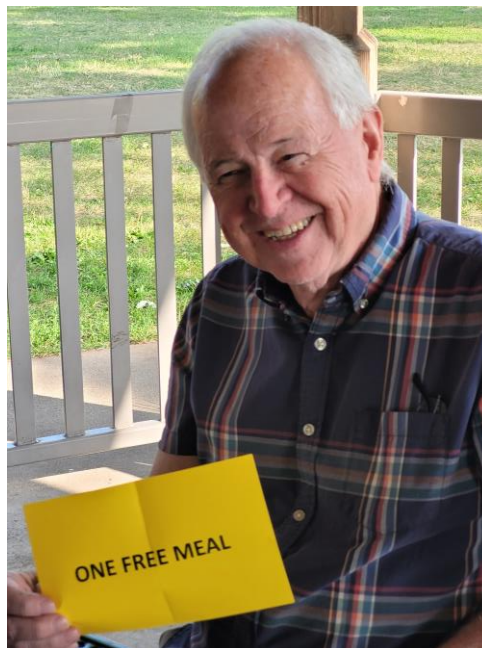
NEWS Editor: Bruce Cooper



*First Minnesota Monument at Gettysburg*

### 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

Our annual picnic was a huge success – well attended with 43 members and guests. Thanks to all who brought delicious salads, sides, and desserts. A special thank you to Charlotte Shover, Wendy Osman, and Carol VanOrnum for bringing the meat dishes, Lana Blumhoefer for organizing the RSVPs, Bob Svacina for contributing the TCCWRT mouse pads as contest prizes, and James Mewborn for creating the trivia contest questions. Member Tom McManus had the winning number of correct answers. Also, thanks to those members who chose to contribute cash instead of a dish. A total amount of \$85 was raised, which helped defray the cost of the meat dishes.



Trivia contest winner Tom McManus

## OUR 2023-2024 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### 2023

- September 19<sup>th</sup> “An Introduction to Mosby’s Rangers”  
Eric W. Buckland
- October 17<sup>th</sup> “General Grenville Dodge, Grant’s Chief Intelligence Officer”  
Prof. William Feis
- November 14<sup>th</sup> “General George Searls Greene & Culp’s Hill”  
Dan Welch
- December 19<sup>th</sup> “General Grant as Commander-in-Chief of the Union Armies”  
Christopher L. Kolakowski

### 2024

- January 16<sup>th</sup> “Civil War Ciphers & Codes Wartime Evolution”  
Derek Lee
- February 20<sup>th</sup> “The Concept of “Cowardice” in the Civil War”  
Dr. Lesley Gordon
- March 19<sup>th</sup> “Food and Hunger During the Civil War”  
Prof. Anne Rubin
- May 21<sup>st</sup> “U.S. Colored Troops at War”  
Dr. David Wright Falade

## LAST UNION VETERAN CEREMONY FOR ALBERT WOOLSON

I have the honor to invite you to the Last Union Veteran ceremony for Albert Woolson in Duluth on August 12th. Albert is not only the Last Union Veteran from St. Louis County; he is the **Last Union Veteran in the USA!**

If available, we are asking the members to attend in Civil War uniform or appropriate period civilian attire.

The Last Union Veteran ceremony will be at the Park Hill Cemetery, 2500 Vermillion Road, Duluth, Minnesota.

At 1:00 there will be a wreath laying ceremony at the Albert Woolson statue at The Depot, 506 West Michigan Street in Duluth. This will be followed by a reception in the Great Hall. In the Great Hall there also will be an exhibit on Albert Woolson, exhibit on the Civil War soldiers from the county, and other displays such as the GAR in Minnesota, SUVCW Camp 56, Civil War reenactors, and American Legion Post 28 (Albert Woolson was a charter member).

This event is sponsored by the SUVCW Camp 56, St Louis County Historical Society and the American Legion Post 28.

Gary Carlberg            Commander            SUVCW Camp 56            (651) 214-7086

### **STEVEN SCHIER'S CIVIL WAR TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH:**

In what month and year did the Monitor and Merrimack engage in naval battle?

**(See last page for the answer)**

### **THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY – AUGUST**

- 6<sup>th</sup>                    1862 – Confederate Naval Lieutenant Henry K. Stevens orders the scuttling of the CSS Arkansas near Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- 15<sup>th</sup>                    1888 – Union General Phillip Sheridan dies at the age of 57.
- 18<sup>th</sup>                    1862 – Little Crow leads a group of Dakota warriors on a surprise attack on the Lower Sioux Agency.
- 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>            1864 – Battle of Weldon Railroad, Virginia.
- 19<sup>th</sup>                    1862 – Dakota warriors attack New Ulm, Minnesota.
- 24<sup>th</sup>                    1862 – The CSS Alabama, a Confederate screw sloop of war, is commissioned at sea near the Azores.
- 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>            1863 – Battle of White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, West Virginia.
- 30<sup>th</sup>                    1879 – Confederate General John Bell Hood dies of yellow fever in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the age of 48.

### **CIVIL WAR BIRTHDAYS – AUGUST**

- 5<sup>th</sup>                    1829 – Brigadier General Milo Smith Hascall U.S.

- 6<sup>th</sup> 1811 – Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate Cabinet officer.
- 20<sup>th</sup> 1833 – Brevet Brigadier General and future U.S. President, Benjamin Harrison.  
U.S.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 1834 – Brigadier General Nathaniel H. Harris C.S.
- 24<sup>th</sup> 1825 – Fleet Captain Samuel Rhoads Franklin, U.S. Navy
- 26<sup>th</sup> 1811 – Brigadier General Danville Leadbetter C.S.

### **TCCWRT MEMBERS WITH AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 8/4 James Mewborn
- 8/8 Mike Eckman, Stephen Osman
- 8/18 Bill Huntzicker
- 8/23 Steven Olson
- 8/27 Melodie Cooper
- 8/31 Larry Rivers, Barry Rosinsky, and William Smith

### **MEMBER BERNARD BACHRACH DEAD AT AGE 84**

Bernard Stanley Bachrach of St. Paul Minnesota, husband of Deborah Bachrach, passed into the hands of God on Friday, July 14th, 2023.

Bernard, known to his legion of friends and admirers as Bernie, was born on May 14th, 1939 in the Bronx, New York, the eldest child of George and Sally Bachrach and brother to Arlene.

Bernard graduated from Queens College in New York City in 1961 and received his PhD in history from the University of California at Berkeley in 1966. The author of dozens of books and hundreds of scholarly articles, Bernard was a world-renowned historian of medieval Europe. He won numerous awards for his scholarship and teaching, and in 1986 was one of the youngest scholars ever to be elected a fellow of the prestigious Medieval Academy of America. Bernard spent most of his career at the University of Minnesota, where he was a professor from 1967-2020.

Bernard met his life-long partner and love of his life Deborah Yellin at Queens College, where they were both teaching 1966-1967. The two were married on June 26th, 1968. Bernard and Deborah raised their three sons, Jamie, David, and Dan in St. Paul. Bernard felt blessed to have had the opportunity celebrate his 55th wedding anniversary with Deborah, and to watch his nine grandchildren Sam, Eliana, Maddie, Jacob, Rachel, Jessica, Henry, Caleb, and Lilah grow up. Bernard's great passions were his family, his work, and sports. Bernard was an athlete

throughout his life. A competitive track runner in high school, college, and graduate school, later in life Bernard took up squash and was a ranked player in Minnesota into his 40s. Over the past two decades, Bernard was an avid golfer and flirted with hitting his age up through the summer of 2022. Among his favorite things were running with his wife Deborah as they trained together for marathons, and hitting golf balls with his son Dan. He also took great pleasure in working together with his son David, with whom he wrote books and articles about medieval history. Bernard passed with his wife Deborah at his side. May his memory be for a blessing. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; sons, David (Elyse) and Daniel (Julie); sister, Arlene (Fred) Lansky of Saratoga, Florida; and nine grandchildren.

### SUMMER PICNIC CIVIL WAR TRIVIA CONTEST QUESTIONS

1. What Minnesota city was named after a man who eventually became a Confederate officer?
2. Henry Morton Stanley was a Welsh American who joined an Arkansas regiment in the Confederate Army and was captured at Shiloh. He later served very briefly in the Union Army and then for a longer period the Union Navy. He jumped ship in February 1865. What was he later famous for?
3. What former U.S. president joined his state in voting for secession and was elected to the Provisional Confederate Congress?
4. Who was the author of "*Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics for the Exercise and Maneuvers of Troops When Acting as Light Infantry or Riflemen,*" which became the best-known drill manual of the Civil War.
5. Who was known as the "black knight of the Confederacy"?
6. In addition to Lincoln and Douglas, who were the two other notable candidates who ran for president in the 1860 election?
7. How many states (and which ones) did Douglas win?
8. In the Battle of New Market in May 1864, who were the Union and Confederate commanders?
9. What unit of troops became famous for its participation in this battle?
10. After the death of Albert Sidney Johnston on the first day of the battle of Shiloh, who succeeded Johnston as commander of the Confederate army at Shiloh?
11. In 1835, Sarah Taylor, a daughter of future president Zachary Taylor, became the first wife of what important Civil War figure?

12. What former fur trader and scout was breveted as a Union brigadier general for his role in one of the battles (Valverde) in the New Mexico and Arizona operations of 1862?
13. At General Sherman's request, what Civil War nurse and hospital administrator rode at the head of the 15<sup>th</sup> Corps of the Army of the Tennessee in the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington at the end of the war?
14. What city was the home of Mary Bickerdyke, the site of the 5<sup>th</sup> Lincoln-Douglas debate in 1858, a major stop on the Underground Railroad, and, later, the birthplace of poet Carl Sandburg?
15. According to the poem by John Greenleaf Whittier, what did Barbara Fritchie of Frederick, Maryland say to a Confederate officer, perhaps Stonewall Jackson?
16. In the Vicksburg campaign, what city did General Grant say was "too beautiful to burn"?
17. Who was the former slave who bought her freedom, became a Washington, D.C. dressmaker, and was hired by Mary Todd Lincoln as her personal maid and dressmaker?
18. Name 2 of the 3 Confederate generals who later served in the U.S. Army in the Spanish-American War.
19. The melody of a popular Civil War ballad "Aura Lee" was later used for what popular song in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century?
20. Abraham Lincoln's eldest son, Robert Todd Lincoln, served Presidents Garfield and Arthur in what capacity?
21. According to legend, during the Battle of Ft. Stevens on the outskirts of Washington in 1864, a Union captain saw a tall civilian (Abraham Lincoln) expose himself to enemy fire. Who was that captain who allegedly yelled at Lincoln to "Get down, you fool!"
22. Albert Woolson of Minnesota was the last confirmed surviving Civil War veteran. He died in 1956. In what role did he enlist when he joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Minn. Heavy Artillery Regiment in 1864?
23. What Union naval officer had a chamber pot dumped on his head in occupied New Orleans?
24. How many Confederate generals were killed in action or mortally wounded at the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee on November 30, 1864?
25. What Civil War general had a son who was a general in WWII and was killed in that war?
26. When Jeb Stuart made his ride around McClelland's Union army in June 1862, why was he concerned that he might encounter Union General Philip St. George Cook?



27. Who was the only woman ever to receive the Medal of Honor? Hint: it was for her actions in the Civil War.
28. What soldier who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions in the Civil War had a son who received the Medal of Honor for his actions in WW II?
29. What well-known union officer did not receive his Medal of Honor for actions at Gettysburg until 1893 – 30 years after the battle?
30. Who was the first recipient of 2 Congressional Medals of Honor?
31. What single battle had the *second* highest number of casualties in the Civil War (Gettysburg had the highest number of casualties)?
32. Which Union state had the most military deaths in the war?
33. Who was the last Confederate field general to surrender?
34. Who was the highest ranking civilian to volunteer for military service during the war?
35. In a discussion of Civil War operational decisions in his memoirs, what did General Grant say was one of his biggest regrets of the war?

Answers can be found on page 12.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC PICTURES



## From the Dusty Collection No. 32 *Two Forks and a Spoon Tell Their Stories*

Successfully identifying, researching and teasing out artifact stories gives this collector great satisfaction. The two forks and spoon here described do just that, and after 170 years we can



meet their original owners, both US Navy officers prior to the Civil War.

These artifacts are made of coin silver, a durable alloy common to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and composed of 90% silver with nickel and copper added for strength. This was the same metal used in US silver coins of the era. Coin silver was regulated by law, and most utensils were well

marked with maker names. Various on line and published directories can often date these artifacts by their marks.

The two forks were made and marked by BROWN & KIRBY of New Haven Connecticut, a firm active between 1840 and 1857.



J. M. FREEMAN made and marked the spoon. Joseph M. Freeman (1802-1882) of Norfolk, Virginia used various marks during his career, but a son joined the firm in the mid-1850s; the spoon is Freeman's earlier solo mark and so dates from a few years either side of 1850.



Given the known date range of the spoon maker's mark, a search for this naval officer named William H. Cheever would only need to span the period from the Mexican War (1846-48) to the Civil War.







The two forks on the other hand, both engraved “H.C.F. U.S.N.” below the figure of a bird, took a bit more work to identify. But they delivered a more interesting story and even some welcome illustrations.

This is the process of that research, starting with those mysterious initials. There are a number of directories of naval officers, and some are time period specific. The one I used spanned most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and included a couple hundred officers with last names beginning with “F.” A dozen had first names beginning with “H” and of those most had no middle initial listed. Two had the middle

initial “C” but only one of those served before the Civil War. A quick search for that officer’s name revealed his birthplace to be New Haven, Connecticut...where the forks were made!

Henry Collins Flagg III (his painting on right) was the original owner. Although there is no comprehensive biography on line, there are enough bits and pieces to outline his story. Flagg was the oldest son of a New Haven mayor and grandson of a prominent Revolutionary War officer who had served as surgeon general of the Southern Military District. His family spent considerable time in South Carolina, heading north before the sickly summer seasons. In fact, notice of his death was printed in the Confederate *Charleston Mercury* on October 5, 1862. The entire year is scanned and free on Google News, a resource new to me.



Flagg, born in New Haven, joined the US Navy in 1828 and served as a Midshipman on the Frigate USS Guerriere, then attended the Naval School at Norfolk Virginia, and in 1834 continued as a Passed Midshipman on the Frigate USS Potomac. He was promoted Lieutenant in

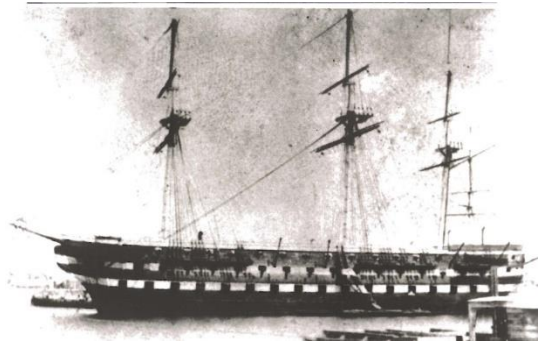


1841, then serving on the Brig USS Dolphin. That small ship, launched in 1836, and its crew of 80 protected American citizen interests along the South American coast and made two cruises to the African coast from 1839 to 1841 to suppress the slave trade. There are numerous documents relating to Flagg scanned onto the Fold 3 web site, including his assignments and his testimony in a number of courts martial. In one instance he even wrote up charges against his ship’s commanding officer after a troublesome 15-month cruise to Africa in the early 1850s

The naval officer was also a talented artist who had been trained along with his two younger brothers by their famous uncle Washington Allston. He seems to have intermittently left the Navy to pursue a career as a maritime artist. Flagg’s works are represented in several collections, but one of interest shown here, titled

*An Old Salt*, depicts Quartermaster Frederick Boyer who was a career enlisted sailor probably aboard the *Dolphin*. It is currently in the US Naval Academy Museum.

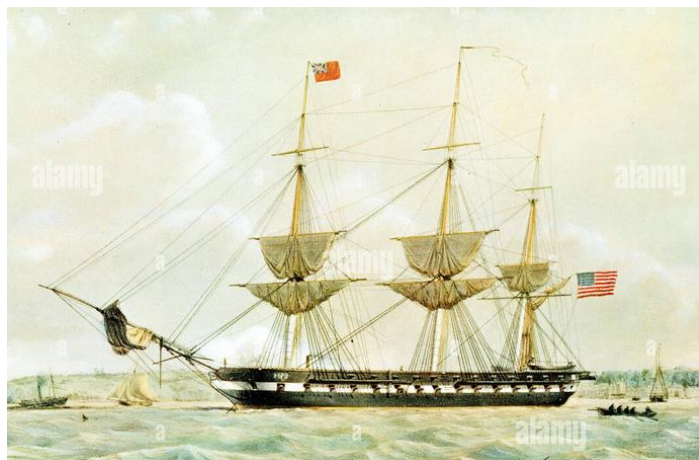
Lieutenant Henry Flagg joined the Reserved List in September 1855, but came out of retirement for the Civil War to be promoted Commander on 19 July 1861. His last service was as Executive Officer on the Receiving Ship USS *North Carolina*. That venerable ship of the line had been launched in 1820 and was fitted for 102 guns; it was for a time considered the most powerful warship in the fleet. Unfortunately, her great size made her difficult to maneuver, and her deep draft prevented her from entering most ports. In 1839 the *North Carolina* lumbered into New York Harbor and began a long career as a Receiving Vessel to train new sailors. The USS *North Carolina* would be Commander Flagg's final assignment. While home in New York he suddenly died in July 1862.



William Harrison Cheever, original owner of the coin silver spoon, turned out to have a Minnesota connection. He was born in Maine in 1832 and his family moved to St. Anthony Minnesota sometime in the late 1840s. From there he accepted his 1849 appointment to the Naval Academy. Cheever served as a Midshipman on the Steam Frigate USS *Susquehanna* as part of his training, as well as the Frigate USS *Constitution*, the Sloop USS *Jamestown* and the Frigate USS *Congress*. He was promoted to Passed Midshipman in 1855 and returned to the *Susquehanna*. Advanced to Master later the same year, he transferred back to the Frigate USS *Constitution*. His ship, known as *Old Ironsides* and launched in 1797, is today on display in Boston Harbor. Based on Cheever's testimony in a couple of courts martial scanned and on the Fold 3 military research web site, the young officer served with the Brazil Squadron during at least part of the early 1850s.



In May 1856 Cheever was promoted to Lieutenant, and back in Minnesota where he accepted orders from the Navy to report to the USS *St. Lawrence*. That ship was also part of the Brazil Squadron and Lieutenant Cheever was to be its Master. A ship's master, also known as sailing master, was a skilled naval rank responsible for the navigation of a sailing vessel.





The Frigate USS St. Lawrence, shown above, had been launched in 1848, sailed to Europe and then returned to be part of the Pacific Fleet. She was recommissioned in September 1856 and sailed for South America's Atlantic coast to be the flagship of the Brazil Squadron. On July 13, 1857 Lieutenant Cheever died of mosquito borne yellow fever on board his ship opposite Rio de Janeiro. According to a Bangor Maine newspaper, at his funeral, the Brazil Squadron's Commodore French Forrest eulogized Lieutenant Cheever: "he was an intelligent, gallant, faithful and efficient officer, one of the brightest ornaments of the navy, whose career of honor and usefulness is brought to an early close ... His generous, frank and noble hearted disposition strongly attached us to him and won for him our affections and esteem."



Navy Sailing Masters were proficient in everyday use of a sextant like this cased example manufactured in New York during the Civil War for the US Navy.

## SUMMER PICNIC CIVIL WAR TRIVIA CONTEST ANSWERS

1. Albert Lea - - Albert Miller Lea was an American engineer, soldier, and topographer with the United States Dragoons who surveyed southern Minnesota and northern Iowa in 1835-1836. He was born and grew up in east Tennessee. During the Civil War, Lea was an engineering officer in the Confederate army.
2. He is remembered mostly for his exploration of Central Africa and his search for missionary and explorer Dr. David Livingstone. When he finally located Dr. Livingstone after a long search in Zanzibar and Tanzania, Stanley supposedly said "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"
3. John Tyler, who was also elected to the Confederate House of Reps but died in Feb. 1862 before the first session opened.
4. General William J. Hardee. The book was popularly known as "*Hardee's Tactics*."
5. Cavalry commander General Turner Ashby. He wore a black hat with a long black feather and had very black hair and beard.
6. John Bell & John C. Breckinridge.
7. He received the 2<sup>nd</sup> most votes of these candidates, but the only state he won was Missouri.
8. Franz Siegel and John Breckinridge.
9. The battalion of 247 VMI cadets (some as young as 15), of which 10 were killed or mortally wounded.
10. Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard.
11. Jefferson Davis. Sara died of malaria or yellow fever 3 months after the marriage.
12. Christopher "Kit" Carson.
13. Mary Ann (Mother) Bickerdyke. She cared for the wounded on nineteen battlefields, including Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and Atlanta. Sherman asked her to ride at the head of the 15<sup>th</sup> Corps as a gesture of the esteem in which she was held by the soldiers of the western armies. In the years that followed, Bickerdyke helped secure federal pensions for many U.S. Army veterans and for more than 300 nurses who served in the Civil War.
14. Galesburg, IL - The Old Main building at Knox College in Galesburg is the last intact surviving debate site.
15. "Shoot if you must this old gray head but spare your country's flag."



16. Port Gibson, MS was the site of several skirmishes, but most of its antebellum buildings survived because General Grant called the town “too beautiful to burn”.
17. Elizabeth Keckley. In addition, in 1862, Keckley established the Contraband Relief Organization, an organization of Black women who assisted former slaves seeking refuge in Washington, D.C.
18. Joseph Wheeler (he rode with Teddy Roosevelt up San Juan Hill and also served in the Philippines), Thomas Rosser (trained troops), Fitzhugh Lee (commanded a Corps in Cuba).
19. “Love Me Tender” by Elvis Presley.
20. Secretary of War.
21. Future U.S. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendall Holmes.
22. He joined at age 14 as a drummer.
23. Admiral David Farragut.
24. Six - Five generals were killed in action at Franklin, including Patrick Cleburne, who was widely viewed as one of the South’s best division commanders. A sixth general was mortally wounded and died 10 days later. Another 5 were wounded and one was captured.
25. Confederate General Simon Buckner of Kentucky had a son, Simon, Jr., born in 1886 when his father was 63 years old. Lt. General Buckner commanded the 10<sup>th</sup> Army at Okinawa when he was killed by an enemy artillery shell in June 1945. He was the highest-ranking American officer killed in WWII.
26. Cooke was his father-in-law.
27. Dr. Mary Edwards Walker from New York is the only woman to receive the Medal of Honor and one of only eight civilians to receive it. She was the first female surgeon in the US Army, working as a surgeon at a temporary hospital in Washington, at the First Battle of Bull Run, and at the Patent Office Hospital in Washington, D.C. She worked as an unpaid field surgeon near the Union front lines, including at Fredericksburg and in Chattanooga after the Battle of Chickamauga. She was captured by Confederate forces after crossing enemy lines to treat wounded civilians and arrested as a spy. She was a prisoner of war until released in a prisoner exchange.  
  
She was approved for the Medal of Honor by Pres. Andrew Johnson after the war for her efforts to treat the wounded in battle and across enemy lines. After the war, she was a writer and lecturer supporting the women's suffrage movement until her death in 1919.
28. Arthur McArthur received the Medal of Honor for his actions at Missionary Ridge. He seized the colors of his regiment at a critical moment and planted them on the captured

works on the crest of Missionary Ridge. His son General Douglas received the medal for his actions in the Philippines and the Bataan Peninsula.

29. Colonel (and later General) Joshua Chamberlain.
30. Thomas Custer (George's brother) received separate Medals of Honor for his actions at Five Forks and at Saylor's Creek in Virginia in April 1865. He was the first of 19 men to have earned the nation's highest military honor more than once.
31. Gettysburg had about 51,000 casualties over 3 days. Chickamauga produced over 34,000 (killed, wounded, captured, missing) casualties in 2 days. [Amer. Batt. Trust]
32. Somewhere close to 39,000 NY troops died in combat or from disease. By comparison, Minn. had just under 3,000. [Amer. Batt. Trust].
33. Stand Watie was the principle Cherokee chief from 1862 to 1866, and he was the only native American to rise to the rank of Brigadier General in either army. On June 23, 1865, Watie finally surrendered his command, the First Indian Brigade of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi. He was the last Confederate general in the field to surrender.
34. Vice President Hannibal Hamlin - Beginning in 1860, Hamlin was a member of the Maine State Guard, a militia unit. When his company was called up in the summer of 1864, militia leaders informed Hamlin that he did not have to take part in the muster. He opted to serve, arguing that he could set an example by doing the duty expected of any citizen. He reported for duty in July, taking part in routine assignments including guard duty, and later taking over as company cook. He was promoted to corporal during his service and mustered out with the rest of his unit in mid-September 1864.
35. Grant said "I have always regretted that the last assault at Cold Harbor was ever made... No advantage whatever was gained to compensate for the heavy loss we sustained."



James Mewborn reading a trivia question

**STEVEN SCHIER'S TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER:**

March 1862.

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<https://tccwrt.com/>

**Can you contribute to a future newsletter? Writers are wanted to submit Civil War related articles to this newsletter.**

**Please submit your drafts to Bruce Cooper: [earlofbuce@hotmail.com](mailto:earlofbuce@hotmail.com)**