

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XLVII, Number 10

Chicago, Illinois

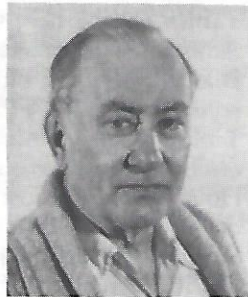
June, 1987

Col. Mark M. Boatner, III, on Reading, Writing and Teaching Military History

by C. Robert Douglas

Since it was first published in 1959, Col. Boatner's *Civil War Dictionary* has been received with such enthusiasm that it is now in its 16th printing. He had the book turned down by the History Department at West Point, but found a warm reception for it at David McKay publishers in New York. A new printing, with contributions from experts since the original publication, is scheduled for this spring. On June 5, 1987, Col. Boatner will address The Round Table and relate some of the difficulties he encountered in getting this valuable reference work into print.

The *Civil War Dictionary* is now considered to be an essential unit of a collector's basic reference library. Whenever a date, fact or personality is in question, the *Dictionary* will be one of the first books to be consulted. It ranks in importance with several other books.



By far the most valuable source of information on the correspondence and reports of the Col. Mark M. Boatner, III various campaigns is the *Official Records*, or the "O. R.'s" as they are commonly known. This massive work was printed in the period from 1880 to 1901 in 70 volumes (with 128 parts). Since the average collector is always hard pressed to find new space on his bookshelves, it still is possible to buy specific volumes for the desired information on specific campaigns of interest.

Another valuable reference item comes from the research work of our late member, E. B. "Pete" Long, for Bruce Catton's 3-volume study, *The Centennial History of the Civil War*. Pete's book, *The Civil War Day by Day* (1971), furnishes the reader with daily entries on the military and political activities in all parts of the country, beginning in November, 1860 and ending with the war's conclusion in May, 1865. An important feature of the book is the complete (and very extensive) bibliography of Catton's *Centennial History*.

A work frequently quoted in Civil War literature is the 4-volume study, *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, edited by R. U. Johnston and C. C. Buel, published originally in 1887-88. Douglas Southall Freeman describes it as... "a series of articles on the principal battles of the war as seen by surviving Union and Confederate officers of distinction who had participated in the engagements."



462nd Regular Meeting

Col. Mark Boatner
on
Reading, Writing, and
Teaching Military History

Friday, June 5, 1987

Note: This is the first Friday of the month

Quality Inn
Halsted and Madison
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$13.00 per person
Entree: Chicken Kiev, Fish, or Fruit Plate



The best Federal reference work has to be Frederick H. Dyer's *Compendium of the War of the Rebellion*, first published in 1908 in one volume, reprinted in 1959 in 3 volumes and soon to be reissued in one volume. It contains a brief history of all Federal regiments, as well as mortality tables and departmental organization of the Union armies.

Another work in two volumes that has become a valuable reference tool for Civil War enthusiasts is Ezra J. Warner's *Generals in Gray* (1959) and *Generals in Blue* (1964). These companion works provide a brief biography and photograph of each general officer, Union and Confederate.

Long needed was a comprehensive and authoritative guide to the literature of the Civil War. This void was filled with the publication of *Civil War Books: A Critical Bibliography*, with volume I published in 1967 and volume II in 1969. Its distinguished editors, Allan Nevins, James I. Robertson, Jr. and Bell I. Wiley, had as a major objective... "to analyze those volumes familiar and unfamiliar, general and limited, indispensable or useless, for the benefit of anyone delving into the literature of the Civil War."

In 1986, there appeared the most complete one-volume

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



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 18 East Chestnut Street
 Chicago, Illinois 60611
 Phone: (312) 944-3085

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The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Dan Weinberg, 18 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.



A cache of 3000 letters, newspapers clippings, 19th century playbills and playbooks, photographs of 19th century actors and other papers of John Ford—the owner of Ford's Theater when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated—has been donated to the Library of Congress. John Ford Sollers, 82, a drama professor, donated the papers, which he inherited from his aunt, Lizzie Ford, the theater-owner's daughter. Much of the material is unique, the only known copies of the items.

(continued from page 1)

reference work to date, *The Historical Times Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Civil War*. The collaboration of 62 historians and Civil War experts, it contains over 2,000 entries, with a thorough presentation of political, economic, social, as well as military developments during the war. It will become recognized, as it has already in some quarters, as a most suitable companion to Col. Boatner's valuable *Civil War Dictionary*.

A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Col. Boatner graduated from West Point in 1943, and had combat service in Italy (1944-45) as well as Korea (1953-54). His service earned him the Bronze Star with 3 oak leaf clusters and the French Croix de Guerre. He served at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) at Paris, France (1959-63). He then attended the U.S. Army War College and secured his Master's degree from George Washington University (1966). His published work includes: *Company Duties* (1950); *Military Customs and Traditions* (1956); *Civil War Dictionary* (1959); *Encyclopedia of the American Revolution* (1966); and *Landmarks of the American Revolution* (1973). In preparation is *The Encyclopedia of World War II*, and he continues to serve as a consultant for the History Book Club. Since his retirement from the Army, Col. Boatner's activities include writing and the management of family property in Virginia and Louisiana.

The 13th Annual Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held October 15-18, 1987 in Gettysburg. Among the speakers/battlefield tour guides will be Ed Bearss, Robert Krick, and our own Marshall Krolick. The registration fee is \$150 for members of Civil War Round Table Associates and \$170 for non-members (there is a \$10 discount for payment before October 1). Rooms at the Holiday Inn will cost \$46/\$51. An optional tour on Sunday tracing Lee's retreat back to Virginia, led by Rev. John Schildt, will cost \$40. For further information, contact CWRT Associates, P.O. Box 7388, Little Rock, AK 72207.

Jerry Russell, founder and chairman of CWRT Associates, recently received the Charles L. Dufour Award of the New Orleans Civil War Round Table. The Award, named for veteran New Orleans newsman and Civil War author "Pie" Dufour, is presented to persons who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the field of Civil War history and preservation. This was the third year the award was presented.

The 4th Annual Gettysburg Civil War Book Fair, featuring over 50 book, art and photo dealers, will be held Saturday, July 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Stonehenge Restaurant in Gettysburg. For further information, contact C.L. Batson, 5512 Buggy Whip Dr., Centreville, VA 22020 (703) 631-0884.

Also being held in Gettysburg July 3-5 is the 13th Annual Gettysburg Civil War Collectors Show featuring Civil War or earlier military memorabilia and relics. It will be held at the Sheraton Inn-Gettysburg.

The 5th Annual Midwest Civil War Collectors Show will be held Saturday, September 19 at the DuPage County Fair Grounds in Wheaton, Illinois. For general information and table reservations, contact: Robert Nowak, 3238 N. Central Park, Chicago, Illinois 60618 (312) 539-8432.

May meeting

by Wayne Anderson

The 461st Regular Meeting of The Civil War Round Table was held on May 8. Betty J. Otto spoke on "Maryland Remembers the Civil War." The crisis created by secession and its evolution into civil war had a great impact on the state of Maryland and its citizens. In the years before 1860, the citizens of Maryland had strong social and economic ties with Virginia and other states that made up the Confederacy. After the Civil War began, Maryland supported the Federal government, but there was a great deal of internal dissension. Those who supported the Confederacy believed that Maryland was being kept in the Union by force.

On April 19, 1861, the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry arrived by train in Baltimore, enroute to Washington. Because there was no through rail connection, the regiment had to march from one depot to another. While marching to the depot, the Sixth was attacked by an angry mob of Confederate sympathizers. Shots were fired by the mob and the Sixth returned fire, clearing a way to the depot; four soldiers and twelve civilians were killed. Because of this event, many Northerners looked upon Maryland's loyalty with suspicion.

In the summer of 1862, Maryland was the focal point of the Civil War. After Pope's army was defeated at Second Manassas, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia crossed the Potomac River and invaded Maryland. There were several reasons for the Confederacy to invade Maryland. One was that the Confederacy was looking for diplomatic recognition from Europe. Because the Union armies were defeated during the Peninsula Campaign and at Second Manassas, a Confederate invasion of the North would appear as a triumphant march to cower a defeated enemy.

Second, an invasion of the North would take the pressure off the Confederacy to defend itself. It would permit the farmers to harvest their crops without interference. And, third, many Confederate political and military leaders believed that Maryland wanted to be liberated from the Union. A victorious Confederate army, bringing the war to the North, could expect to recruit thousands of Marylanders to the Southern cause and persuade Maryland to join the Confederacy. But, as Lee's Army of Northern Virginia marched into Maryland, it was met by coolness and indifference. There was little enthusiasm for the Southern cause and hardly any recruits for Lee's army.

During the Confederate invasion, two battles were fought in western Maryland. On September 14, 1862, the Union Army of the Potomac forced the Confederates out of the critical passes at South Mountain. Although the Federals inflicted heavy casualties on the Confederates, they were slow in taking advantage of their victory. Historians interpret the battle at South Mountain as a delaying action which allowed Lee to concentrate his army along Antietam Creek, near the small village of Sharpsburg.

On September 17, 1862, the Army of the Potomac attacked the Confederate positions at Antietam. Although they were outnumbered, the Confederates were able to prevent a Union breakthrough because of good defensive positions and McClellan's extreme caution in not committing his reserves to exploit any success. When the day ended, over 25,000 Americans, on both sides, were casualties. On the 18th, the Confederates remained in their positions while McClellan went about reorganizing his army. During the evening, the Confederates made a skillful with-

drawal from Sharpsburg, crossed the Potomac, and entered Virginia. The Antietam Campaign was over.

During June, 1863, Marylanders witnessed the movements of the Confederate and Union armies, which led to the Battle of Gettysburg. However, no major battles were fought in Maryland during this campaign. On July 9, 1864, Confederate forces under General Jubal Early attacked and defeated 6,000 Federals under General Lew Wallace near the Monocacy River. Although the Battle of Monocacy was a Union defeat, it gave time to the Union forces to reinforce Washington and to deter the Confederates from taking the city. This was the last major battle fought in Maryland during the Civil War.

The West Virginia Historical Society recently helped secure a new grave marker for Union general W.H.L. Wallace who died as a result of wounds suffered at Shiloh and who is buried in a private cemetery in Ottawa, Illinois. But, according to an item in the District of Columbia Round Table newsletter, it wasn't easy. The original limestone tombstone spelled out Wallace's full name—William Hervev Lamme Wallace. However, the new bronze markers provided by the VA only have space for 21 letters. The new marker thus bears the inscription William H.L. Wallace. Even more disturbing was the reaction of a VA spokesman when the requisition was first submitted. He asked, "Do you have Wallace's Social Security number?"

"Grant's March: The Vicksburg Campaign" is the title of a 70-minute video cassette now available from North-South Videos, Inc. According to their literature, the show is based on research by Ed Bearss (who also appears in the video) and makes use of present-day and old photographs and animated maps. The video can be ordered from North-South Videos, P.O. Box 376, Bolton, Mississippi 39041. It costs \$39.95 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling.

New York City has begun an "adopt-a-monument" program to try to restore and preserve some of the city's approximately 1500 monuments and statues. According to *The New York Times*, private money is currently being sought for 20 monuments, including those of Abraham Lincoln and Union General Henry Warner Slocum. As in many places, acid rain, automobile fumes and vandals have taken a heavy toll. The city currently spends about \$175,000 a year to maintain the 1500 monuments and statues. In contrast, it is estimated that to repair and restore the 20 monuments in question will cost \$1.3 million. Restoration of the Lincoln and Slocum statues, both located in Brooklyn, will cost \$40,000 and \$57,000 respectively.

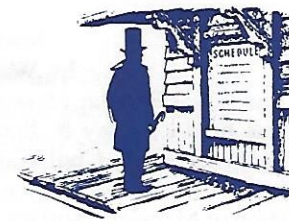
1988 Battlefield Tour

The Round Table Executive Committee, at its meeting May 8, selected Chancellorsville as the site of the 1988 tour, to be held April 28-May 1, 1988. The tour will coincide with the 125th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Chancellorsville. Terry Carr and John Coverick will serve as tour co-chairmen.

A drive has been started to raise funds for a statue at Gettysburg for Major General Samuel Wylier Crawford. The Pennsylvania legislature approved a statue of him early this century, but ran out of money in 1913 before work could be completed.

The New Books

compiled by Dick Clark



BULLETIN BOARD

Bearss, Margie Riddle. *Sherman's Forgotten Campaign: The Meridian Expedition*. Jackson, MS: The Jackson Civil War Round Table, Inc., 1987. Maps, photos, index. \$18.00.

Dame, William. *From the Rapidan to Richmond*. Richmond, VA: Owens Civil War Books, 1987. Original of 1920.

Fehrenbacher, Don E. *Lincoln in Text and Context*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1987. 332 p. \$35.00.

Flanigan, Daniel J. *The Criminal Law of Slavery and Freedom, 1800-1868*. New York: Garland Pub., 1987. \$60.00. Ph.D. Thesis, Rice University, 1973.

Frobel, Anne S. *The Civil War Diary of Anne S. Frobel*, with introduction and appendices by Mary H. and Dallas M. Lancaster. Florence, AL: Mary H. Lancaster, 1987. pbk \$12.50.

Hanchett, William. *The Lincoln Murder Conspiracies*. Urbana: The University of Illinois Press, 1987. pbk \$9.95. Hardcover of 1983.

Hendrickson, Robert. *The First Day: The Firing on Fort Sumter and the Start of the Civil War*. Briarcliff Manor, NY: Stein and Day, 1987. 276 p., illus., bibliog., index. \$22.95.

Katcher, Philip R.N. *American Civil War Armies (1): Confederate Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry*. Colour plates by Ron Volstad. London: Osprey Publishing, 1986. 48 p., illus. (some col.), stiff-paper wraps. \$7.95.

Holmes, Torlief S. *April Tragedy. The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln*. Poolesville, MD: Old Soldier Books, Inc., 1986. xiv, 199 p., map, plan, illus., index. \$25.00.

Moss, William. *Annotated Checklist of Confederate Broadside Verse*. Westport, CT: Meckler Publishing Corp., 1987. \$34.50.

Schutz, Wallace J. *Major General John Pope and the Army of Virginia*. N.p.: The author, 1986. \$25.00.

Robertson, James I., Jr. *General A.P. Hill: The Story of a Confederate Warrior*. New York: Random House, 1987. xv, 382 p., maps, bibliog., index. \$24.95.

Sergent, Mary Elizabeth. *They Lie Forgotten. The United States Military Academy 1856-1861. Together with a Class Album for the Class of May, 1861*. Middletown, NY: The Prior King Press, 1986. 8½ x 11, 200 p., illus. stiff-paper covers. \$20.00.

Strozier, Charles B. *Lincoln's Quest for Union. Public and Private Meanings*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987. pbk \$9.95. Hardcover of 1982.

Wells, Edward L. *Hampton and His Cavalry in '64*. Richmond, VA: Owens Civil War Books, 1987. 249 p., illus., maps, index. New Introduction by A. Wilson Greene. Original of 1890.

Future meetings

Regular meetings are held at the Quality Inn, Halsted and Madison, the second Friday in each month, except as noted.

June 5: Mark Boatner on "Reading, Writing and Teaching Civil War History." **Note:** This is the first Friday of the month.

July 12: Annual picnic.

August 8: Summer Executive Committee meeting.

September 11: Nevins-Freeman Award dinner. Recipient of Award, James Hickey.

October 9: William Safire on "Freedom."

November 13: James Ramage on "Morgan's Huntsville Raid."

December 11: Gordon Dammann on "In Defense of the Civil War Surgeon."

January 8, 1988: James Vlazny on "Robert Barnwell Rhett: Father of Secession."

February 12: Hon. Paul Simon. Subject to be announced.

March 11 and April 8: To be announced.

April 28-May 1: Annual Battlefield Tour: Chancelorville.

May 13: To be announced.

New members

Gary Augustine, Rt. 5, Myrtle Lane, Sewickley, Pennsylvania 15143.

Joe Fournier, 1214 Woodland Ct., Joliet, Illinois 60436 (815) 744-3316.

William G. Sullivan, 1811 N. Orleans, Apt. 301, Chicago, Illinois 60614 (312) 944-3682.

Change of address

Merlin and Pat Sumner, 209 High St., Petersburg, Virginia 23803 (804) 862-1295.

The 125th Anniversary Commemoration of the Seven Days Battle will be held at the Richmond National Battlefield Park June 26-28, 1987. Included will be tours, encampments, exhibits, artillery firing, a band concert and the premiere showing of a new film, "Richmond Remembered."

The Save Historic Antietam Foundation will sponsor a tour of historic sites and houses on September 18 and 19 as part of the 125th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam. All proceeds will go toward preservation projects.

Summer Executive Committee meeting

President-elect Dan Weinberg has announced that the summer meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Saturday, August 8 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Pheasant Creek Clubhouse, 3100 Pheasant Creek Drive, Northbrook. All 1987-88 officers and committee chairmen, and all past presidents, are encouraged to attend. Further details will be sent prior to the meeting.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has formally designated the sunken Civil War ironclad "Monitor" as the first shipwreck to be named a national landmark. The Monitor sank in a storm off Cape Hatteras, NC in December, 1862.