

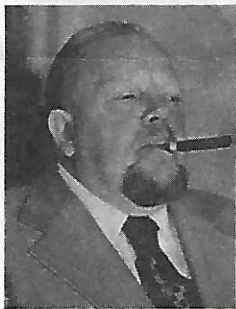
# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXXIII, Number 2

Chicago, Illinois

October, 1972

## Dan J. Lapinski on the Battle of Island No. 10, October 13



Dan J. Lapinski

The story of the battle of Island No. 10 reads more like the scenario for a Hollywood wide-screen movie epic than the history of a somewhat obscure military operation. Yet, for sheer drama and suspense, it has few rivals in the annals of Civil War History.

Our Dan J. Lapinski will attempt to trace the events that led to this confrontation in the middle of the Mississippi River in the spring of 1862 at the October 13 meeting of the Civil War Round Table at the Chicago Bar Association.

In an effort to capture the strategic island located 90 miles below Cairo, Illinois, Gen. John Pope marched his army down the west bank of the Mississippi River to New Madrid, Mo. where he was halted in his tracks by the pesky Confederate gunboat fleet. Pope called on Flag Officer Andrew Hull Foote and his flotilla of iron clad gunboats for support. Foote responded, but his experiences at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson had taught him respect for Confederate artillery and for weeks he refused to plunge into headlong battle with the heavily fortified island.

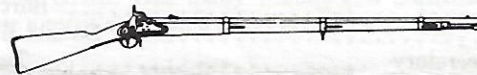
A feud developed between Pope and Foote and Pope was forced to attempt to bypass the island by cutting a canal through the swamps near New Madrid. This feat was considered an engineering triumph at the time but its impact was diluted by the rapidly falling river and a most dramatic event that gives this story its element of suspense.

After pleading and demanding that Foote attempt to at least bypass Island No. 10 with one of his ironclads, Pope managed to get the old salt water sailor to call a council of war. The captains of the gunboat fleet were assembled and Pope's plan was laid before them. Commander Henry Walke, an ambitious naval officer, volunteered to run the gauntlet with his boat the Carondolet. It is the story of this action that proves to be the highlight of the operations at Island No. 10.

Dan Lapinski is not an unfamiliar face to the members of the CWRT as he has been a fellow member for almost 10 years. Dan served as a member of the Board of Directors, Tour Chairman for the Shiloh Battlefield tour, Senior Vice President and President of the round table two years ago.

A graduate of the University of Chicago, Dan was for a number of years an economist with a large cement manufacturing firm. Later he formed his own firm, the Melrose Supply Corporation which he heads today.

His devotion to American history is evidenced by his active membership in many history oriented organizations such as the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table, the Westerners, the Caxton Club, the Chicago Historical Society, the Illinois



314th REGULAR MEETING

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Dan J. Lapinski

on

The Battle of Island No. 10

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Friday, October 13, 1972

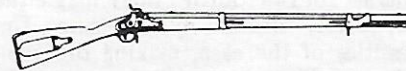
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Chicago Bar Association  
29 South LaSalle Street

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Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



Historical Society and a dozen or more other historical organizations.

Other than the Civil War, his interest lies in a lifelong study of the Black Hawk War.

The 1972-73 fiscal dues are now payable for those who have not yet paid and all members who have not paid by the October meeting will be dropped from our roster. Second notices to delinquents were mailed out September 15 for dues that were due last July 1, 1972.

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The Kentucky Civil War Round Table is featured in an article by Holman Hamilton in the August, 1972, issue of Civil War Times Illustrated. A portrait of William H. Townsend has caption noting that it was his address to Chicago CWRT that stimulated formation of the Kentucky CWRT.

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

## OFFICERS

President ..... Charles V. Falkenberg, Jr.  
Senior Vice President ..... Gordon Whitney  
Vice President ..... Charles D. Wesselhoeft  
Vice President ..... Ward C. Smidt  
Secretary ..... Burt Rovens  
Treasurer ..... Donald E. Jensen  
Assistant Secretary ..... Terry Carr  
Assistant Treasurer ..... Gerald M. Edelstein  
Editor of Newsletter ..... Don Russell  
Contributing Editor ..... Dick Clark

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Committee)

Terms expiring in 1973: Richard Cohen, George Fleming,  
Don Sikorski.

Terms expiring in 1974: Elmer Pendarvis, Edward Johnson,  
Norman Toberman.

Founding Newsletter editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968



*from the  
Editor's pen*



Such routine-ridden souls as are accustomed to mark their calendars on the second Friday of each month for the meeting of the Civil War Round Table only to find that in September the meeting was set for the fourth Friday may either be mildly annoyed or excessively irritated by the change. Understanding fully the necessities of the case, making the change entirely unavoidable, your editor may still be counted among the excessively irritated. Where is the report of the last meeting? Members never can be made to understand that this Bulletin has not been produced simultaneously with the day you get it, although most of them can cite instances of the slowness of the United States mails as now administered. There are a few other time-consuming problems, such as getting the copy written, getting it set in type, getting it made up, which means a considerable amount of paper-doll work in fitting its various bits and pieces into place, running off addresses on envelopes, folding the separate copies of the Bulletin and placing them in the addressed envelopes, and finally getting it into the mail with the hope that ultimately it will be delivered in time for you to mail in your reservation card so that it will be delivered, codified, and transmitted before the Bar Association runs short of beef and potatoes.

Now all of this takes about a month, which means that we go to press immediately following the preceding meeting, provided the preceding meeting has not moved from the second Friday to the fourth Friday. In the present instance,

obviously the Bulletin must be on its way before the meeting. Your editor has been accustomed not only to render some kind of report on the previous meeting, but also to gather there items of other import such as some of you insist should appear in the next Bulletin. Just as obviously, it could not be done this time.

All of this may seem very much like complaint by your editor, but that premise is entirely false. The fact of the matter is that about this much more copy seemed to be needed to fill up the space, and the result is this inconsequential drivel. However, it may serve two useful purposes: (1) Give all of you some idea of how long it takes to put this monthly baby to bed, and (2) If you would rather read something more useful and informative, send something in. After all this Bulletin does not belong to its editor; it belongs to the members — so make yourself a part of it.

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## TAPS

John G. Oien, for many years a faithful member of the Civil War Round Table, died August 30, 1972, at the age of 87 at the Four Seasons Nursing Center, Wheaton, where he had been resident for a year. He was a retired lawyer and had served as tax agent for the city of Chicago. While living in Chicago his residence was at 10902 South Bell Avenue. His wife Jane died some time ago and his nearest relative was a cousin, Paul N. Asp of Wheaton. Services were at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Chicago, September 1, with burial in Mount Hope cemetery.

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Charles V. Falkenberg, Sr., father of the president of the Civil War Round Table, died July 12, 1972, at the age of 79. He was a leading attorney, prominent in veterans and civic organizations, veteran of World War I, past commander Logan Square Post, American Legion, and former president of the Logan Square Businessmen's Association, of the Logan Square Kiwanis Club, and of the German Club of Chicago. Besides his son Charles, Jr., he is survived by his wife Grace, two daughters, Helen and Mrs. Wanda K. Smith, and ten grandchildren. Services were at St. John Berchmans Church.





Sutler's Store at Petersburg Battlefield. This reconstruction of a Union sutler's store (Post Exchange or PX to more recent veterans) marks an area where 110,000 Union soldiers camped in the mud during the siege.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones, editor and publisher of The Tulsa Tribune pays tribute to "My Friend, Heinie" in a lead editorial in the issue of April 1, 1972. Heinie is of course our fellow CWRT member Henry B. Bass of Enid, Oklahoma. "Heinie waves the Flag," says the piece, "He has led more people around Civil War battlefields than Lee's horse, and his collection of Lincolniana is outstanding." Heinie's newsletter quotes Bruce Catton: "The world has always been in crisis," and goes on: "Americans are being led into a retreat from fundamentals by a group of egoists who are attempting to demonstrate their smartness by taking them down strange paths." (The item came to us from Edward B. Stroh.)

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## TO THE CAMP FOLLOWERS (LADIES)

Time: 5:30 p.m., October 13, 1972

Place: The Book and Bottle, 17 East Chestnut Street

Program: Mr. Bill Sullivan will give an address on the subject of historical archaeology entitled, "History Written with Pick, Shovel and Camera."

Reservations: Write or phone before October 10, 1972 Betty Walter (Mrs. Robert), 1511 East Miner Street, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60004, 253-7053.

Last Program: Pat Newman performed double duty by being a most gracious hostess and giving the ladies an interesting and enlightening account of Julia Dent Grant. Our many thanks and gratitude to Pat for a most enjoyable evening.

TO ALL CWRT MEMBERS: your womenfolk always qualify as a camp follower and are cordially invited to attend the meetings. Perhaps some of the newer members don't know this. We meet when they do, drink, eat and have a program—then break camp simultaneously with the gentlemen.

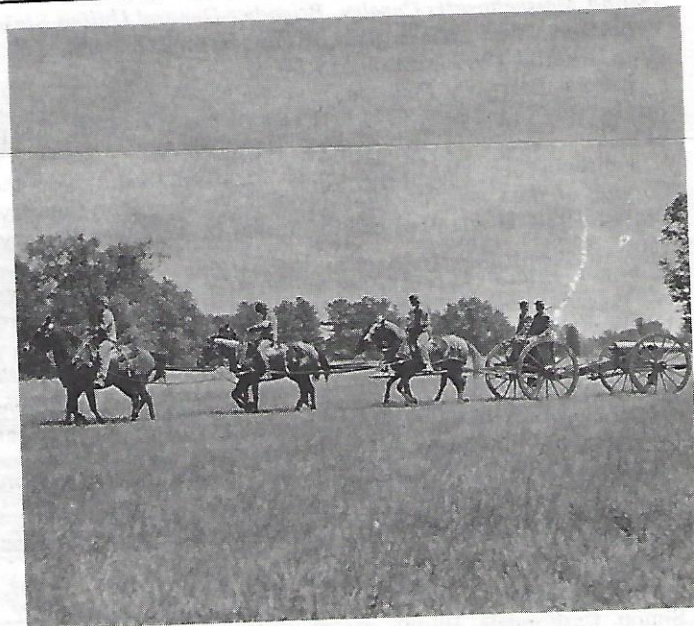
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## LINCOLN LECTURES ABROAD

President Nixon has named four American scholars to inaugurate Lincoln Lectureships abroad, marking the 25th anniversary year of the Board of Foreign Scholarships that promotes intellectual exchanges. The four are John Hope Franklin, professor of history at the University of Chicago; Paul A. Samuelson, Nobel Prize-winning professor of economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Charles H. Townes, Nobel prize-winning professor of physics at the University of California in Berkeley, and author John Updike of Ipswich, Mass.



CONFEDERATE ARTILLERY ACTIVATED. At Petersburg National Battlefield last summer a bronze Napoleon gun went into action as part of a demonstration unit activated by the National Park Service. The artillery unit consisted of gun, limber, six horses, and eight artillerymen in Confederate uniforms. Three men ride the near horses (left-hand



string); two ride the caisson; one is guidon bearer, and the corporal walks alongside. The unit gave three or four performances daily at Fort Stedman, to the delight of visitors. Photos, courtesy of Martin R. Conway, superintendent, Petersburg National Battlefield, Petersburg, Va.



## THE NEW BOOKS

(Compiled by Dick Clark)

Albaugh, William A., III. *Confederate Faces*. Ports., 250p. Solana Beach, Calif., 1970. \$12.50.

Avery, Isaac Wheeler. *The History of the State of Georgia from 1850 to 1881 . . .* N.Y.: AMS Press, 1972. 754p. Reprint of 1881 edition. \$38.50.

Benton, Elbert Jay. *The Movement for Peace without a Victory during the Civil War*. N.Y.: Da Capo Press, 1972. 80p. Reprint of 1918 edition. \$7.95.

Beveridge, Albert Jeremiah. *Abraham Lincoln, 1809-1858*. 2 vols. Grosse Pointe, Mich.: Scholarly Press, 1971. Original of 1928. \$28.00.

Burns, Zed H. *Ship Island and the Confederacy*. Hattiesburg, Miss., \$2.75.

Capers, Gerald M. *Stephen A. Douglas, Defender of the Union*. Edited by Oscar Handlin. Boston: Little, Brown [1972]. 239p. paper, \$2.75.

Catton, Bruce. *U.S. Grant and the American Military Tradition*. Edited by Oscar Handlin. Boston: Little, Brown [1972]. Original of 1954. Paper. \$2.75.

Chittenden, Lucius E. *Personal Reminiscences, 1840-1900*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries, 1971. Original of 1893. 434p. \$17.50.

Cochran, William Cox. *The Western Reserve and the Fugitive Slave Law; a Prelude to the Civil War*. N.Y.: Da Capo Press, 1972. Reprint of 1920 edition. 235p. \$11.50.

Cooke, John Esten. *The Life of Stonewall Jackson, from Official Papers, Contemporary Narratives, and Personal Acquaintances, by a Virginian*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries [1971]. Reprint of 1863 edition. \$12.00.

Donald, David, compiler. *The Nation in Crisis, 1861-1877*. N.Y.: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1970. Goldentree Bibliographies in American History. Paper. \$2.25.

Dunning, William A. *Essays on the Civil War and Reconstruction, and Related Topics*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries [1971]. First published 1897. \$14.50.

Emerson, Edward Waldo. *Life and Letters of Charles Russell Lowell, Captain Sixth United States Cavalry, Colonel Second Massachusetts Cavalry, Brigadier-General United States Volunteers*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press, 1971. 499p. Reprint 1907 edition. \$17.50.

Estvan, Bela. *War Pictures from the South*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries [1971]. Reprint 1863 edition. 352p. \$13.50.

Fehrenbacher, Don E., compiler. *Manifest Destiny and the Coming of the Civil War, 1840-1861*. N.Y.: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1970. Goldentree Bibliographies in American History. Paper. \$2.25.

Foner, Eric. *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men. The Ideology of the Republican before the Civil War*. N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1970. \$8.50.

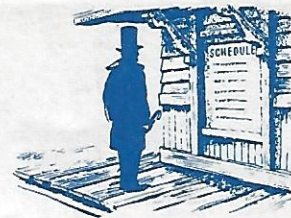
Fox, Charles B. *Record of the Service of the Fifty-fifth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries, 1971. 144p. Reprint of 1868 edition. \$9.75.

Goddard, Samuel A. *The American Rebellion. Letters on the American Rebellion, 1860 to 1865, &c.* Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries [1971]. 583p. Reprint of 1870 edition. \$19.50.

Grant, Ulysses Simpson. *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*. Volume 4; January 8 - March 31, 1862. Edited by John Y. Simon. Carbondale, Illinois: Southern Illinois University Press, 1972. \$15.00.

Hague, Parthenia Antoinette. *A Blockaded Family*. Freeport, N.Y.: Books for Libraries, 1971. 176p. Reprint of 1888 edition. \$10.50.

## BULLETIN BOARD



### FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Chicago Bar Association, 29 South LaSalle Street, second Friday in each month except as noted.

September 29-October 1: Special Battlefield Tour—The Kentucky Bluegrass.

October 13: Dan Lapinski on Island No. 10.

December 8: Richard M. McMurry of Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Ga., on John Bell Hood.

March 9: Bell I. Wiley of Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., on Women of the Lost Cause.

April: Stephen A. Douglas birthday and Ladies Night, G.A.R. Room, Chicago Public Library, date and details to be arranged.

May: Annual Battlefield Tour, dates and details to be arranged.

June: Special Award meeting and Ladies Night, G.A.R. Room, Chicago Public Library; tentative; date and details to be arranged.



### NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Paul W. Arndt  
244 East St. Charles Road  
Lombard, Illinois 60148

Clifford Gould  
1634 Barnsdale Apt. 210  
La Grange Park, Ill. 60525

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Libertyville, Ill. 60048

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Chicago, Ill. 60602

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Chicago, Ill. 60630

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Chicago, Ill. 60649

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Wayne J. Anderson  
5343 N. Nashville  
Chicago, Ill. 60656

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Robert G. Cronson  
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